EVENING EDITION

Japan Times & Advertiser

Incorporating
The JAPAN CHRONICLE and The JAPAN MAIL

EVENING EDITION

No. 15,406 (THE 17th YEAR of SHOWA) TOKYO, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1942 第三種郵便物認可 昭和十五年十二月二十七日 Price 8 Sen

CHANGES FORESEEN IN BRITAIN'S POLICY WITH CRIPPS' ENTRY

Soviet Influence Now Most Conspicuous—Many Questions Pending

HOME ISSUES AFFECTED

London Press Sees Return of Cripps to Laborites— Leftist Turn Likely

With the entry of Sir Richard Stafford Cripps into the Churchill Government, as Lord Privy Seal succeeding his predecessor Major Clement Richard Attlee, Britain is now faced with the need of a historic turn in its politics, the most conspicuous indication being that Soviet Russia is predominantly influencing the British political world. With respect to this, some German papers are even predicting a threatening revolution to run through the old democratic society of the country.

An Asahi special dispatch from Stockholm dated February 21, commenting in this connection on the recent reorganization of the British Cabinet, declared that the Cabinet reshuffle is still left with many difficult questions arisen out of it, which can be settled only after some radical changes in the trend of the British political world are effected. The dispatch says in substance:

The British Cabinet is now confronted with the necessity of reorganizing itself for the second time before the start of the Parliamentary discussion on the current war developments in the House of Commons scheduled for February 24. This view is being supported by many political observers in London.

There are few things to be predicted of the future trend of the British political circles, expected to come as the result of the Cabinet reshuffle. First, the personality of the new Cabinet member, Sir Richard, who is a Leftist, is now on the gradual ascendancy. This is to mean that the Democracies' united front in the world-wide war has now come to such a stage that aid from the Soviet Union has become an unavoidable necessity whether British Prime Minister Winston Churchill liked it or not.

This necessity is now influencing the domestic politics of the present British Cabinet as well as its diplomatic policies to such an extent that some German papers even assert that Britain is now faced with an imminent radical change in its social organization.

Drifting Toward Leftist

A few Swedish dailies, carrying their London reports, are alleging that the inclusion of Sir Richard in the Cabinet may be taken as a clear indication that Britain is now rapidly drifting to the Leftist ideology both in its domestic and international policies. This is to predict that the friendly relations between Britain and Soviet Russia will be deepened gradually in military and economic lines, these papers state. It was under this light that the resignation of Lord Beaverbrook as War Production Minister can be reasonably understood, the papers add.

Sir Richard Stafford Cripps, it may be recalled, was once noted as the leader of the Socialists League, known as a unit of the Leftist theoreticians among the Labor Party. Three years ago, just before the outbreak of the current European hostilities, he was dismissed from the Party on a charge of supporting the Popular Line movement then rampant in some quarters of Europe.

Sir Richard, according to a London message on February 21, is earnestly wanted among many political quarters to return to the Labor Party. Though it is not yet certain how he himself will face the expectation, he will most probably go back to his old party and then exert his utmost effort to have the structure of the Party radically changed in accordance with the Leftist wishes under the dictate of the Comintern in Russia. This is at least the consensus of the London press views available at Stockholm.

What now remains the strongest opposition to Sir Richard's ascendancy expected in the management of the Labor Party will be from Ernest Bevin, present Labor Minister, and from some leaders of the Party itself. Also, there will be some opposition to the same cause from the Conservatives, who are occupying nearly 400 seats in the House of Commons.

Change in India Policy

Other things predicted in connection with the Cabinet reorganization in Britain judging from various messages

(Continued on Page 2)

TRAIN JUMPS TRACK

4 Cars on Sanyo Line Meet Mishap Near Katsuma—No Casualties

An express train on the Sanyo line was derailed at 5:42 a.m. today about 200 meters west of Katsuma station, according to Domei.

Although four freight and passenger cars were derailed, no casualties have been reported.

At 9 a.m., no hope was seen in operating trains along a single track.

Pilot of Disabled Plane Dives at Enemy But Miraculously Delivered From Death

Adventures of Sergeant-Major Susumu Kadowaki of the Japanese Air Corps believed to have committed a end by diving into the enemy camp, was disclosed by his miraculous return to the base after eight days of trying experiences in drifting from one small island to the other, reports a Yomiuri correspondent from Malaya.

Sergeant-Major Kadowaki participated in a raid over Palembang in Sumatra, the report says, and was about to return to his base after releasing deadly missiles when, unfortunately, one of the shells from the enemy high-angle guns found its mark on his plane. The craft slowly lost altitude and by the time it reached about 130 kilometers south of Singapore, there was no hope whatsoever of continuing the flight, whereup the pilot decided to dive into the enemy position.

"Faster and faster, the earth came up to meet me," the Sergeant-Major told the reporter, "and all I remember is that I crashed into a coconut grove. When I came to, I pinched myself to see if I was not dreaming for I had miraculously escaped, unscathed. I crawled out of the wreckage and after destroying the important documents, proceeded to a hut found later to be occupied by a native, from whom I learned that I was on a small island about 60 kilometers south of Singapore."

When they found that he was a Japanese, the pilot went on with his story, the natives including a chieftain swarmed around him, congratulating him on his safety and offering toasts to his future success. Having been told that there was a small boat belonging to a Chinese who ferried between the island and Singapore twice each month, the pilot left for the latter on the morning of February 16.

However, he was told that Singapore had not yet fallen into the hands of the Japanese Forces and consequently, in order to avoid danger, the captain of the small craft changed his course and headed for another small island off the Malay Peninsula.

Toward dusk, the launch anchored off an unknown island. As the hours passed, the report continues, a small boat carrying eight British soldiers and two women escaping from Singapore passed close to the launch, but fortunately, the disguise saved him from being molested by the enemy soldiers.

"I was told on the following morning of the fall of Singapore by the island inhabitants and proceeded immediately for Pulau Batam," he stated. "Here I changed boat and continued my trip toward Singapore, finally reaching Shonanto in the afternoon of February 20."

JAPANESE IN BORNEO GET BAD TREATMENT

British Assurances Prove Lies As Families Separated and Property Pillaged

Simultaneously with the rescue of 587 Japanese internees at Borneo, it was disclosed that an additional 209 men, some separated from their wives and relatives, were transferred from Tawao to Batavia in Java, their properties in the meantime having been looted despite assurances by the British officials to protect the life and property of the Japanese subjects.

Following is the extract from a diary kept by one of the internees, revealing the unfair treatment given to the Japanese residents by the British and Dutch officials.

December 8, 1941: It has been decided that all Japanese males over 15 years of age are to be interned at a Japanese hospital.

December 10: Looting and pillage were rampant at the vacated Japanese residences and companies. All guns and radios owned by the Japanese residents were confiscated by the officials.

Transferred to Batavia

December 11: At 7 a.m., a Dutch gunboat made port at Tawao, bringing an order to transfer 150 single Japanese men to Tarakan and thence, to Batavia. Indignant over the unfair treatment, a demonstration was about to be staged, but all the internees managed to exercise forbearance, agreeing to obey the order. The first batch of 56 men were thus taken away and in their places, additional Japanese, mostly those who had been operating rubber plantations in the eastern coast of Borneo, were brought to the concentration camp with their wives and children.

December 12: Notwithstanding the official announcement of the British Government to protect the lives and properties of the Japanese residents, furniture and fixtures of the commercial concerns, not to mention the commodities in stock, were looted while in the rural districts, the houses occupied by the Japanese were damaged.

December 15: The officials demanded the immediate departure of the second batch of internees for Tarakan.

December 16: Nineteen men from the hospital and 56 others from elsewhere left for Tarakan. Particular mention should be made of the fact that of the total of 75 men, 19 were those who had wives, children or other dependents.

Families Separated

December 17: A Dutch gunboat again called at the port and selected 78 men, the majority of whom were married and had children, and took them to Tarakan to be transferred to Batavia.

December 24: With the outbreak of an epidemic of typhoid, the patients were removed to newly constructed quarters in the concentration camp.

December 27: Eight launches of the Tawao Estate of Borneo Marine Pro-

(Continued on Page 2)

BRAZIL SEEN DETERMINED TO MAINTAIN NEUTRALITY

Rio Reports Claim Government Will Keep Foreign Policy Unchanged

Domei

LISBON, February 22.—The Brazilian Government will not alter its present foreign policy, according to a Rio de Janeiro report received here today.

The decision was made at a recent Brazilian Cabinet meeting, which was called to discuss the recent sinking of a Brazilian vessel off the coast of the United States, the report stated.

Certain agitators, it was said, have been attempting to use the incident to incite the Brazilian people to act against Axis nationals in the country.

BASE AT SINGAPORE FAILS EXPECTATION

Survey by Navy Experts Show British Boasts Nothing But Myth

The much-boasted strength of the Navy Base at Shonanto, has been found to be a myth, in the opinion of leading Japanese Navy experts, who made a very detailed examination of the facilities, following its complete occupation by Japanese Forces. A Nichi Nichi correspondent, who was present at the first check-up, describes the actual strength of the fortifications as follows:

The Changi fort is situated at the eastern end of the island, and guards the entrance to the Straits of Johore. It is 20 minutes' drive from the city of Shonan. The fort covers a vast area for it takes 15 minutes to drive from the gates of the fort to the beach, and the interior of the fortress grounds is criss-crossed with several splendid roads.

Waters Heavily Mined

Two gun-boats were anchored in front of the fortress and the surrounding waters were thick with buried mines. In addition, the approach to the fort was guarded with three lines of barbed-wire entanglements.

A little further back, there was a little elevation from which the island of Kabin, across the straits, was clearly visible. Near this elevation, there were eight buildings painted a dark-grey and covered with bullet-proof steel plates. The buildings were three-storied and tapered toward the top.

On the top stories of these buildings were special telescopes pointed in the direction of the straits, and in the lower chambers were many electrically-controlled levers, which operated the explosion of the mines in the straits. However, many of the more important levers had been destroyed.

From two pill-boxes to the right of these buildings jutted out the black muzzles of eight 12 cm. guns. Nearby were stacks of wooden cases filled with unused shells. Behind these were the barracks of the soldiers, the ammunition store, the rifle store, etc. Beyond these buildings, the coast-line bristled with rows and rows of cannons with their muzzles pointed toward the sea.

The Seletar Naval Base is behind Changi, and is within the Straits of Johore. It is, therefore, admirably situated for defense. Behind the base, stretch acres of rubber plantations and jungle. A single-track railway runs from the base straight to the causeway, where it joins the double-track main line on the eastern side. Several hundred lorries and empty carriages are lying idle on this track.

Floating Dock Sunk

The floating dock had sunk, and the drydock capable of accommodating 50,000 tons of shipping at one time was in ruins. The 39 oil tanks which, as the British had boasted, were capable of feeding the British East Asiatic Fleet for six months, had gone up in flames. Some of them were even then still burning. Only four tanks were intact, but it was impossible to judge the amount of oil inside them.

In Keppel Harbor, there were four battleships at the time the Japanese began their assault on Singapore. When the British surrendered, not a single ship remained. Under the fierce bombing of the Japanese airmen, most of the ships had gone down and the remainder had escaped to Australia. A great part of the British Army had boarded the ships in the harbor on the night of February 14, just before their commander had decided to surrender, and it is believed that this deserting army had gone down with the destroyed ships under the relentless bombing of the Imperial Air Force.

To Hold First Session

Domei

AGRAM, February 22.—Parliament will hold its first session tomorrow, it was reported today.

U.S. PAPERS CLAMOR FOR SENDING OF AID; NO CONFIDENCE SEEN

Huge Reinforcements Said Needed If Dutch Indies to Be Protected

COMMENTATORS GLOOMY

Situation in Burma Darkening —Japanese Must Be Stopped There

Domei

LISBON, February 22.—Indicating a definite lack of confidence in the Allied ability to stem the Japanese advance, United States journals have continued to clamor for the immediate dispatch of huge reinforcements, according to a New York report received here today.

Meantime, Major George Fielding Eliot military commentator of the New York Herald Tribune, said, "it seems likely that Java will fall unless help from outside can be sent there in great volume very quickly and unless the Japanese can be forced to give their attention to interests elsewhere in order to divert their strength, especially their air force from the Java theater of the war, the report stated.

"These are great imponderables of the moment," Major Eliot said, adding, "so much depends upon Java holding fast or at least upon Java holding until steps are taken to make more secure the dreadfully vulnerable communications from the United States to nations in the Indian Ocean."

Blunder Is Noted

Meantime, Martin Agronsky, National Broadcasting Company correspondent, broadcasting from Sydney, said, "Java can be defended only if 1,500 American and British machines, complete with pilots and crews, are delivered immediately."

Mr. Agronsky also revealed that some Royal Air Force pilots, originally scheduled to go to Singapore, were at present in Java, due to some stupid and fatal blunder, in which the ship's destination was mistaken.

Harold Guard, United Press correspondent who fled from Singapore preceding its fall, has written from Batavia that the Java situation is becoming a difficult problem for newsmen who are attempting to avoid indulging in gloomy prognostications.

Mr. Guard said, "exactly a month ago, today, I recall writing a story at the rear press headquarters at Kluang after interviewing Major-General Gordon Bennet at his headquarters at Rengan.

"At that time" Mr. Guard said, "Major General Bennet did not mince words on the seriousness of the situation and on the following day, Kluang's rear press headquarters became the advance headquarters and soon after the headquarters were based in Singapore.

"I remember scratching my head then, just as I am doing now, wondering what to write about," Mr. Guard said, adding, "I feel the same now as I did then and I am trying to avoid recriminations and a gloomy forecast."

Burma Situation Dark

Domei

SAIGON, February 22.—A commentator of the British Broadcasting Corporation, discussing the Pacific situation this evening in a radio report heard here, admitted the seriousness of the allied position declaring that "there is no disguising of the gravity of the situation" in Burma.

The commentator said that the fall of Singapore "has put a new burden on Burma," adding that heavy casualties have been suffered in the fierce fighting now going on there.

He further declared that if the Japanese troops are to be stopped at all, they must be stopped on Burmese soil, indicating the anxiety with which the British are viewing the present battle in Burma.

YOSHIZAWA TO CONFER ON F.I.C. TRADE ACCORD

Japanese Envoy to Hanoi Leaving for Tokyo Soon for Consultation

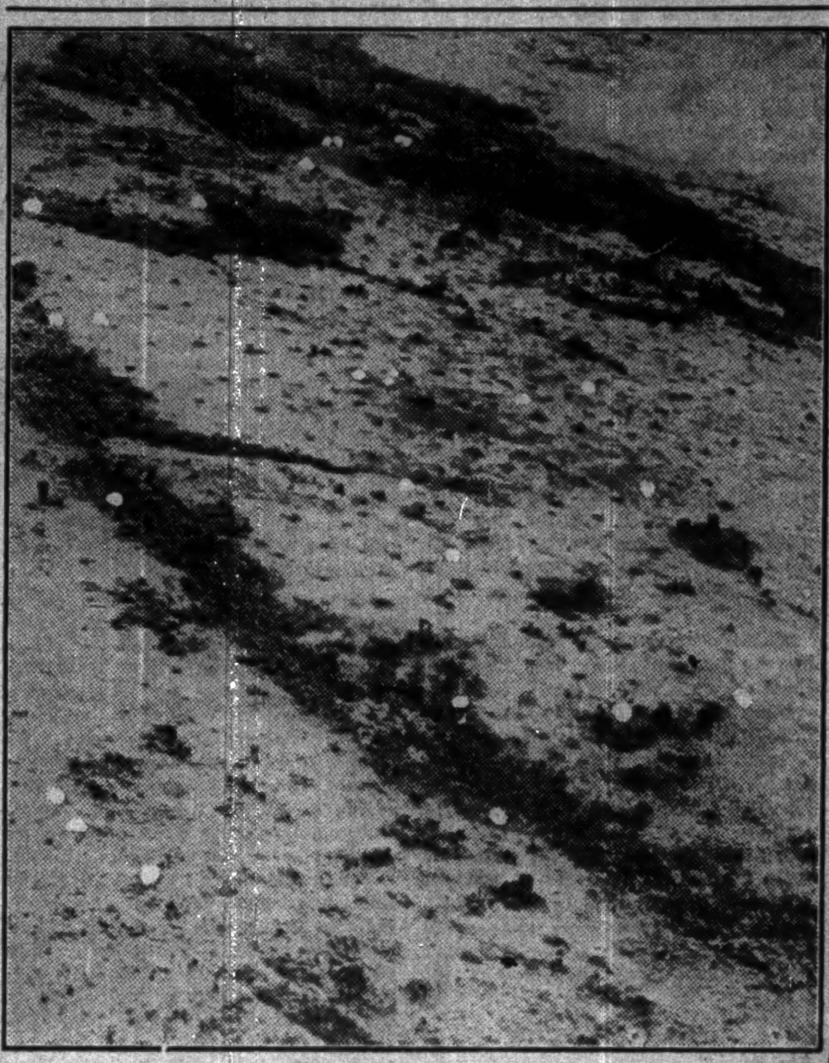
Domei

HANOI, February 22.—Kenkichi Yoshizawa, special Japanese envoy to French Indo-China, today announced his intentions to leave for Tokyo within the next two or three days in order to consult with the Tokyo Government as a provisional agreement of views has been reached regarding the Japan-French Indo-China commercial accord, negotiations for which have been going on since the end of last year.

Mr. Yoshizawa called on Vice-Admiral Jean Decoux, Governor-General of French Indo-China, on Friday when the commercial negotiations were discussed, it was understood.

Vice-Admiral Decoux is expected to give a farewell banquet in honor of Mr. Yoshizawa tomorrow.

Army Parachutists in Action



The recent occupation of Palembang airfield by the joint action of the Imperial Army and Navy Forces has brought under Japanese control the vast oil wealth of that area. Shown above are parachutists of the Japanese Army descending upon the strategic base in Sumatra. (By courtesy of the War Ministry)

WASHINGTON BEGINS ROUNDUP OF ALIENS

Campaign Biggest Ever Conducted Since War as Scores Nabbed in 4 Western States

Domei

SAIGON, February 22.—The biggest alien roundup since the war began was conducted yesterday in the United States, according to an Australian radio report intercepted here today.

The area, the report stated, included California, Oregon, Arizona and Washington.

Crimes Increasing

Domei

STOCKHOLM, February 22.—Crime in the United States has increased tremendously, according to a Department of Justice report last night, it was reported here from Washintgon today.

This year, the Department of Justice said, 1,531,272 cases of major crimes was recorded and during the past year, a murder was committed every 43 minutes, while a robbery was committed every 10 minutes, the report stated.

Skilled Labor Short

Domei

LISBON, February 22.—Due to the acute shortage of skilled labor in the United States, the Union of American Chemists has protested against the calling up of chemists for the United States army, according to a report received here from New York today.

To Evacuate Women

Domei

LISBON, February 22.—Deeply concerned over the recent German U-boat attack against United States tankers in the Mediterranean and the shelling of Aruba Island, in the Caribbean, the Washington Government has decided to evacuate women and children from the island, according to a report received here from Maracaibo, Venezuela, today.

In view of the increasing intensity of German warship attacks against United States shipping off the Western Hemisphere coasts, the Government has decided to take measures to protect its nationals, the report stated.

To Protect Shipping

Domei

LISBON, February 22.—Shipping belonging to all Western Hemisphere nations will be protected by the United States navy, Sumner Welles, United States Undersecretary of State announced today, according to a Washington report received here this evening.

Meantime, observers here have predicted the United States navy will have "its hands full" in view of the many problems with which it already is confronted.

No Passengers on Clipper

Domei

LISBON, February 22.—An American clipper plane arrived here today without any passengers but with a heavy mail cargo and the same plane returned to the United States without any passengers.

Women Carry Mail

Domei

ROME, February 22.—Women mail carriers have been employed here for the first time, it was disclosed today. The use of women was enforced in order to relieve men for more vital duties, it was said.

NEW NAMES DECIDED FOR OCCUPIED AREAS

6 Districts Within Shonanto Already Renamed—Memorial Tower Site Chosen

With the re-christening of Singapore to Shonanto, preparations are now under way for the re-naming of many districts within the island and in the Malay Peninsula, according to the Nichi Nichi.

For the time being, it has been decided to refer hereafter to Bukit Mandai, Bukit Timah, Bukit Panjang, Hill 55, Hospital Hill and Mount Faber as Bandaizan, Buizan, Hibikizan, Chiyodasan, Akisan and Kurumesan respectively.

It is further contemplated to fix the site of a memorial tower to be dedicated to those, who sacrificed their lives during the Malay campaign at Bandaizan. In this connection, it is understood that these places will be known in future as the "Six Hills of Shonanto."

Name Not New

The word "Shonan" with which Singapore Island was renamed upon its capitulation to the Imperial Forces has been used for the past 15 years to call the only Shinto shrine established in the neighborhood of Bukit Timah in the same island by a group of Japanese residents, it was revealed by the Osaka Mainichi on Sunday in its reporter's interview with Miki Ozaki, one of the promoters of the shrine, now living in Shingu, Wakayama Prefecture.

It was in 1929 that a shrine of pure Japanese style was dedicated to Goddess Amaterasu, the first ancestress of the Imperial Family, at a point closely southwest of the Bukit Timah reservoir as a joint enterprise of the most pious among the Japanese residents.

A lot of ground with an area of about four acres were offered as the sacred site by Tora Nagatomi from Kagoshima Prefecture. He had a large farm and gave up part of it as the location of the shrine. The shrine was subsequently called Shonan shrine, apparently meaning "south-radiating" goddess' house of worship.

"Upon hearing that our Government had employed the same word to re-christen Singapore Island, I could not help being overjoyed because the shrine was established and named by us, a group of Japanese residents there," said Mr. Ozaki at his Shingu residence to which he evacuated from Shonan Island after his 30 years' stay there on the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia. Continuing he said:

New Year Rites Held

"The shrine used to have a regular festival on the New Year Day every year. On that day, it was agreed, the first visitor to the shrine would be offered a large 'mochi' cake by priest Nagata, whom we invited from the homeland to take charge of all the ritualistic business of the shrine. So is was very often that many prospective first visitors went to the sacred compounds as early as 10 o'clock on

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Lisbon Restricts Gasoline

Domei

LISBON, February 22.—Further extension of gasoline consumption restrictions have been enforced by the Government, it was disclosed today. Under the latest restrictions, all privately owned cars will be excluded, it was said.

SUMATRA-JAVA LINK SEVERED AS TANDJOENGKARANG TAKEN; PEGU BLASTED BY AIR FORCES

REICH PLANES LEAD IN HEAVY OFFENSIVE

Destruction Rained on Soviet Positions in East Front From Air

BRITISH ISLES ATTACKED

Malta and Tobruk Suffer Intense Raids—Italians Bag Submarine

Domei

BERLIN, February 22.—The Luftwaffe yesterday carried the brunt of the German offensive against Soviet forces on the eastern front raining destruction on enemy troops, trains, airdromes, and motor lorries, while other Reich aerial units dealt heavy assaults against British military establishments, airdromes and harbor facilities in the British Isles, against Tobruk, in North Africa, as well as against Malta Island, in the Mediterranean, the High Command announced today.

In fierce air raids against Soviet positions in the central sector of the Russo-German front, German warplanes heavily bombed railways, troops trains, airdromes and troops entrenchments, while more than 200 enemy vehicles were smashed out of commission. All enemy counter-attacks in the same area were affectively repulsed, the High Command added.

Other German bomber units roared over the British east coast yesterday to score direct hits on factories with heavy caliber bombs, the High Command further revealed.

Conducting successful and devastating air offensives in North Africa, Reich dive bomber formations bombed enemy ships and loading facilities in the port of Tobruk. Fighter planes also cooperated over these areas by harassing motorized columns of British troops.

East of Sollum, a German submarine scored hits on an enemy destroyer and a merchant vessel. In other aerial assaults off the northern coast of Libya a 4,000-ton British merchantship was torpedoed and sunk yesterday, the High Command said.

Continuing the ceaseless aerial bombardment of Malta Island, Axis bombers dived to score smashing hits on six British warplanes lying idle on the airfield.

Meanwhile, British warplanes carried out haphazard raids over western and southwestern Germany yesterday without visible success. Two British bombers were shot down by defending pursuit forces, the communique concluded.

British Sub Sunk

Domei

ROME, February 22.—While preying on British submarines in the Mediterranean with the Italian fleet, the Circe, 679-ton destroyer sighted an enemy undersea craft yesterday and sunk it with terrific artillery fire after 23 members of the crew were rescued, the High Command announced today.

Continuing their daily assaults against Malta, Italian warplanes power-dived to release deadly charges on defense installations and an airfield of the island stronghold.

On the North African front, air activity was resumed over Libya on a medium scale following improvement in weather conditions there.

Axis air forces, in this sector, blasted enemy harbor installations and supply routes in northeastern Libya, while conducting normal reconnaissance activity in Cyrenaica, the High Command concluded.

Barham Loss Given

Domei

STOCKHOLM, February 22.—The British Admiralty today announced that the entire complement of the British Battleship Barham, totaling 868 men, perished when the vessel was torpedoed off Sollum, Libya November 25, last year by a German submarine, according to a London report received here today.

Survivors Reach Brazil

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, February 22.—The sinking of the 724-ton British steamer Scottish Star became known here today when survivors of the torpedoed vessel arrived at Belem, Brazil, aboard a Dutch vessel.

The Scottish Star, according to the survivors of the vessel, was torpedoed at 9:30 a.m. yesterday about 80 miles off the coast of Punta Curuca, the report stated.

Party Anniversary Feted

Domei

BERLIN, February 22.—In celebration of the 22nd anniversary of the establishment of the National Socialist Party by Chancellor Adolf Hitler, solemn ceremonics were held today at the State Opera House.

Occupation of Sumatra Town Completely Cut Communications

NAVY ENTERS KEPPEL

Domei

AN UNDISCLOSED BASE, February 22.—Complete severance of Dutch communications between Java and Sumatra was achieved yesterday by Japanese Forces when Japanese Units which proceeded southward from Pelambang, occupied Tandjoengkarang, important railway point just above Teloekbetoeng, on Lampoeng Bay.

Pegu Air-Raided

Domei

SAIGON, February 22.—Japanese aircraft have bombed Pegu, strategically important town on a road connecting Mandalay and Rangoon and situated 25 miles east of Rangoon, it was learned here today.

Ensign Over Keppel

Domei

SHONAN NAVAL BASE, February 22.—The Japanese naval ensign was raised over Keppel port, in Shonan Island, for the first time when a Japanese naval squadron steamed into the harbor today.

The minesweepers, which have been active since the surrender of Singapore, February 15, yesterday completed clearing a path for the squadron through the mine-fields off Shonan Island and in Keppel harbor, between the shore and the islands of Blakangmati and Brani, which form a natural breakwater for the port.

Meantime, the minesweepers were said to be continuing their operations.

No Escape Possible

Special to the Yomiuri

MANILA, February 22.—Enemy forces on the Bataan Peninsula are facing total annihilation as they have no way of escape now, though they seem to be desperately scheming to find means of fleeing to places of safety.

On the evening of February 18, one American gunboat attempted to leave under the cover of darkness but was discovered by the Japanese Naval Forces which are on constant watch in cooperation with Army troops. As the Japanese ships gave chase and deluged it with fire, the gunboat was forced to return to the port from which it had tried to escape.

At present, the seas around the peninsula are rough due to the trade winds, but the Japanese Navy is nevertheless keeping strict watch constantly to prevent enemy escape attempts.

Meanwhile, the combined American-Filipino forces are gradually withdrawing to the Mariveles district at the southern tip of the peninsula. Since the loss of their positions in the Natib mountain range, the enemy has lost its fighting spirit and are quickly retreating whenever attacked, leaving behind huge piles of arms and munitions.

The food shortage, which is becoming acute, is also a serious problem for them. Along the slopes of the Mariveles mountain, the enemy soldiers are seen requisitioning their supplies by taking buffalos, bananas, watermelons and rice from the villages during the lulls in fighting. A war prisoners, captured a few days ago, said:

"On the firing line we are allowed only one meal a day and in the rear, two meals. We are now more desperately trying to find food than to fight. We cannot struggle on an empty stomach."

Banka Island Described

Predicting the imminent reduction of Banka Island now that Palembang, Sumatra, has been occupied since February 17 by the Japanese Forces, Fukumatsu Takeda, an eight-year resident in Palembang, gives the following description of the island, pointing out that it is one of the outstanding tin producing centers of the world.

Banka Island is about two-thirds the size of Shikoku, Mr. Takeda stated, and the whole island is just a mass of tin-ore layers, it being one of the three foremost tin producing districts in the world with Perak in British Malaya and Bolivia. Muntok, where the Imperial Forces effected a successful landing on February 15, faces the Banka Straits and is the largest trading port in the island with an airfield in the vicinity.

Until several years ago, some Japanese were engaged in business in this island, but they were forced to give up their respective trades with the mount-

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Dunkerque Reaches Toulon

D.N.B.

VICHY, February 22.—The French battleship "Dunkerque" of 26,500 tons which had been seriously damaged in the course of the British attack on the French fleet at Mers El Kebir arrived at Toulon according to a statement of Vice-Premier Admiral Darlan before the French Cabinet Council. The French battleship had sailed under its own steam from Oran to Toulon.

INTERNED PLANTER AWAITING FREEDOM

German Naturalized as Japanese Here Ran Rubber Farm At Palembang, Sumatra

Palembang in Sumatra, the complete occupation of which by the Japanese Forces was announced on Sunday afternoon by the Imperial Headquarters, has among its residents a German naturalized as a Japanese subject called Fischer, who has lived there nearly 50 years with his Japanese wife, it has been revealed by a Nichi Nichi field dispatch from an unnamed base around Sumatra on Monday.

Mr. Fischer, according to the dispatch, is now 76 years old. During his long stay there, he has been mostly residing in the Rimau delta in the Moesi River, just north of Palembang, as the owner of a rubber plantation, which occupies almost the entire area of the delta.

He went to Sumatra for the first time from his homeland in Germany around 1892 to assist his uncle, who had been engaged in tobacco cultivation, for some years in Deli State Sumatra. Soon he fell victim to malarial fever and with the intention of seeking a suitable climate for recuperation, came over to Japan.

Taught at Army School

It was not long afterward that Mr. Fischer was so fascinated by Japan that he decided to live here. He married his Japanese wife with the maiden name of Towa Tanaka and then obtained a position as a German language teacher in the Toyama Army Training School. Gradually, however, he became attracted again to Sumatra, which was enhanced by his thought of the island's importance to the future prosperity of Japan to which he had been naturalized through adequate legal procedure.

Thus he, accompanied by his wife, Towa-san, sailed to the island in 1895 to live in the Rimau delta and engage in rubber cultivation with the assistance of a few Japanese farm workers, who also accompanied him to the southern island. The small delta was later renamed Torashima or Tiger Island by him.

In 1902, about 50 more plantation workers were called from Japan to cultivate the rubber, the production of which rapidly increased in scale.

However, these new recruits to the regret of both Mr. Fischer and the workers themselves, were compelled to come back to Japan because of their poor health caused by the tropical climate.

The plantation, thus, found itself short of workers and was naturally left uncultivated to become wild with weeds growing everywhere. Later, the field was ravaged as hunters trespassed it to shoot tigers and other wild animals. It was very often then that Mr. Fischer with his helpers tried to drive away the animals with revolvers and other weapons.

Mr. Fischer's life on the delta as a rubber cultivator continued up till the outbreak of the current European hostilities until he was interned by the local authorities in a certain concentration camp together with some German residents in the neighborhood. The fact that he was a naturalized Japanese did not prevent his internment.

Though he is still interned, Mr. Fischer is firmly believing that he, along with his German friends, will soon be freed by the Japanese Forces, whose advance to that region he is keenly anticipating with much hope. This firm belief is being often conveyed to the other German internees, to whom he has been giving Japanese language lessons, it is further reported.

Daughters in Tokyo

Mr. Fischer now has two of his daughters studying in Tokyo, the eldest daughter, Tora, at the Futsueiwa Girls' School at Kudan, and the other, the third daughter, Victoria, at the Tokyo Women's Medical College.

In this connection, two women once in the service of the Fischer plantation for 40 years up till very recently, and now living in Omori-ku, Tokyo, namely, Mrs. Hatsu Kuruma, 58, and Mrs. Suzuki Tanaka, 52, in recalling their trip to Sumatra said to a Nichi Nichi reporter when interviewed at their house last Saturday as follows:

"Mr. Fischer is now an out-and-out Japanese old man in his ways and manners. He would always say that his bones would be buried in Japan when he died. He went from Japan to Sumatra when the late Count Munemitsu Mutsu was the Foreign Minister of Japan. Mr. Fischer's passport designated as No. 1 attests to this fact.

"We think we were the first Japanese in that region when we first arrived there with Mr. and Mrs. Fischer. It is our sincere hope that the old couple will be soon freed by the Japanese Forces."

JAPANESE PRESS COMMENTS

Monday, February 23

NICHI NICHI—War of Greater East Asia and Indian Stand

ASAHI—India Awakening

MIYAKO—Greater East Asia Politics

War of Greater East Asia And Indian Stand

NICHI NICHI

Despite paying tremendous sacrifice to Britain in the first World War, India could not better its subordinate position, for the former disregarded its pledge given during the war as if it was a mere scrap of paper. It is for this reason that the Indians point out that the current war of Britain is "a war being carried out by Britain at the sacrifice of various races in India, Asia and Africa for the fulfilment of its imperialistic purposes," which we believe is quite true. Going a step ahead from this right realization of the situation, all Indians must rise for independence as this is a golden opportunity. The greatest concern of the Indian people during the past half a century has been the attainment of independence and this is the chance for them to liquidate everything in the past with Britain.

We believe Premier General Hideki Tojo's statement at the recent Imperial Diet session, in which he declared that Japan expects India to restore its proper status as India for the Indians and will not stint itself in extending assistance to their patriotic efforts has given strong hope to all Indian people for the independence of their country.

What is most urgent and important for India is, first of all, the acquiring of independence and when it is attained, various domestic questions in that country will be settled quite properly. Slow progress in the independence movement thus far, needless to say, is attributable to strong pressure by Britain. More concretely, bombers and machine-guns of Britain prevented effective development of the Indian independence movement. Because of their consideration of India's relation with Britain, the independence movement led by Ghandi and Nehru has been divided despite the fact that they have been striving for a common purpose. With the wholesale defeat of Britain in the War of Greater East Asia, India is now placed in an absolutely advantageous position for shaking off of British shackles. The situation has reached such a stage, as pointed out by Indian leaders, where "the only way left for India is speedy decision and action."

Although Britain has tried desperately since the outbreak of the European War to mitigate the independence movement, they intensified such efforts by deceitful tricks and counter propaganda, particularly after the opening of the War of Greater East Asia. They offer to give autonomous right to the Indians after the cessation of the war, but the Indians must recall how the British deceived them in the last World War. India sent more than 1,300,000 troops in the last war to fight for Britain and supplied £240,000,000 as military expenditures and £250,000,000 worth of munitions. But when it asked Britain for the fullfilment of its promise after the war, the British mercilessly rejected India's claim with machine-guns, poison gas and bombers. We hardly believe India will repeat the same folly again this time.

With the heavy industry in India making rapid progress since the outbreak of the European War, the country has been enjoying an industrial boom to a certain extent. But what must be remembered by the Indians is the stern fact that munitions and ammunition made out of Indian iron will become the weapons eventually which will suppress them. Although a good portion of India's defense expenses is borne by the Indians, the result is that the Indians are giving guarantee by themselves to the British for their exploitation and suppression. India and the Indian people must liquidate such a contradiction resolutely at this moment.

As the control of the Indian Ocean by the Imperial Navy has now become only a matter of time, the interception of connection between India and Britain is also imminent. Thus, a great turning point, in which no British bombers and machine-guns will be able to threaten the 350,000,000 Indians, has been approaching steadily. When they really make up their mind, it will not be so difficult for them restore India to the Indians. We wish to assure here once again that Japan is ready to assist India's sacred war as much as possible.

India Awakening

ASAHI

The fact that the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, particularly the series of miserable defeats suffered by the United States and Britain which invaded and greedily exploited East Asia for centuries, has provided a golden opportunity for the awakening and emancipation of the Asiatic peoples is clearly seen in Burma and Malaya, where the inhabitants have shown their burning desire for emancipation and willingness to collaborate positively with this country.

Such a trend cannot but move the 350,000,000 people in India, one of the most powerful and component peoples of the Greater East Asia Sphere who have a time-honored culture. Premier General Hideki Tojo's declaration at the recent session of the Imperial Diet concerning the independence of India has created a great sensation among the Indian people, particularly among those in the South Seas. Signal fires for their independence movement have been lit in various places.

It is clear in history that wars in recent years have always provided chances for the intensification of India's desire for its independence. It was by no means a mere coincidence that the first revolutionary movement in India came to the surface immediately after the glorious victory of Japan in the Russo-Japanese War in 1904-05. With the first European War as a turning point, the Indian people began to struggle hard for their independence under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi.

When the people of India really grasp the significance of the great aim of all East Asiatic peoples—establishment of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere for co-existence and co-prosperity—its effects will be, indeed, immeasurable. One who knows and fears its seriousness is Britain, ruler and merciless exploiter of India. The release of Pandit Nehru immediately after the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia and Chiang Kai-shek's recent visit to India apparently at British request indicate Britain's desperate effort and trickery in this connection. The above facts show how Britain is dismayed at the effects brought forth by the War of Greater East Asia. Although the situation in India seems to be extremely delicate at present owing to the British manueverings, it will not be long before the true wishes of India become clear out of the prevailing chaotic condition.

We feel rather strange that India, possessor of the oldest civilization in the world, had to suffer under the British fetters for centuries. India was once the leader of Asia with its supreme culture. In its relation with Japan, one cannot help but notice that India's culture has been absorbed in our religion, art and general culture until it has become one of the importance component elements of Japanese civilization. India also achieved various glorious achievements in the field of physical science and also in the so-called material culture. Under British rule, however, this supreme culture of India was denied and poisoned by the Jewish materialism of Britain. The crafty British policy has also prevented the attainment of India's independence thus far.

When India overcomes this weakness in the country and comes to a true understanding of Japan's intention of willingly rendering its assistance, the realization of their long-cherished desire for independence will be possible. In this sense it is urgent both for India and Japan to drive home the real object of the War of Greater East Asia to the Indian people.

Greater East Asia Politics

MIYAKO

With December 8 last year as a turning point, it has become imperative to make Japan's politics more constructive in parallel with the progress of military operations. Therefore, in our national politics, how to win the war is the absolute demand, while construction plans must be carried as its counter-part.

From this viewpoint, the Imperial Diet must undergo a great change qualitatively. Theoretically, the Diet, as the only legislative body of the country, has the function of deliberating and approving legislative and budget bills to be presented by the Government. Since the time of the Manchurian Affair, particularly following the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, this function of the Diet had to be revised tremendously. Thus the Diet has become an assisting organ more than a deliberative body. Although the traces of old party politics disappeared totally with this qualitative change of the Imperial Diet, the Diet must be an organ which will promote and strengthen further the collaboration between the Government and people. In this connection the attitude taken by the Government for the creation of the Diet based on the above ideal through the forthcoming general election must be said a most appropriate one.

The national policy for the construction of Greater East Asia must be formulated on the basis of spontaneous cooperation of the people. For this purpose, the Government must win the understanding and trust of the people in its administration.

Japanese in Borneo Get Bad Treatment

(Continued From Page 1)

ducts Company and the Mitsubishi Trading Company, and 13 other sampans belonging to the Japanese business concerns were destroyed together with many others owned by British companies, Chinese and Malayans for fear that they might be utilized by the Japanese Forces.

Worshipped Imperial Palace

January 1, 1942: In ushering in the new year, a ceremony of worshipping the Imperial Palace was observed, each of the internees silently praying for the success of the Imperial Forces and their speedy release.

January 2: An epidemic of vicious influenza breaks out in the concentration camp.

January 4: It has been decided that all rubber and copra products are to be burned. Clouds of black smoke spouting from the stacks of these products brought lumps to the throats of the Japanese captives, who had spent many hard days in building up the industry.

January 15: Important parts of motors and engines installed in the Japanese owned rubber plantations were destroyed by the British officials.

January 21: To our greatest joy and relief, news reached us, revealing the arrival of the Japanese Forces to rescue the internees.

Thai Residents Rescued

Three hundred Thai residents at Singapore, who were interned by the British authorities on December 16 when the Japan-Thailand Defensive and Offensive Military Alliance was concluded, were rescued by the Japanese troops upon their entrance into the city, it is reported by the Asahi correspondent from Shonan Island (Singapore).

Since the outbreak of the Greater East Asia War, the British authorities at Singapore had those Thai residents kept under strict observation, but upon the conclusion of the military alliance between the two countries, the Thai residents were all arrested and interned in the basement of the General Hospital, where for two months they were subjected to a miserable life of detention.

However, on February 16, these 300 Thai residents were rescued by the Japanese troops. Captain Jamalong, Vice-Commander of the Thai Naval Office at Singapore, who was also interned in relating his experience said:

"At the beginning of December, I came to Singapore on board the Thai ship, Nang Suwang, 200-tons, with four men in our service. At dawn, December 8, I was surprised by the sudden sounding of air raid alarms and the noise of airplanes flying over the city, followed by the bursting of bombs.

"I was arrested by the British authorities on December 16, and taken to the basement of the General Hospital where there were already interned 300 Thai residents. In a small room about two yards square, I, and four other men were placed. The room had no windows and thus it was quite dark even in the daytime. The floor was of concrete and we were not given any bedding. There was only a small hole through which the guards might peep in, and that was the only means for ventilation.

"Meals given were always of small dried fish, bread crumbs, and water. The Indian guard informed me on February 1 that the Japanese Forces had occupied Johore Bharu, and then on February 9 that the Japanese had landed on Singapore Island. Those news were our salvation and we, five of us, congratulated Japan. We heard the gunfire becoming louder and louder every day. Thus, we knew that the Japanese Forces were nearing the city.

"On the morning of February 16, the Indian guard opened the door and shouted: 'Come out all of you, the British forces have surrendered! Now the Japanese troops have come and have ordered that all of you be instantly released.'

"From every room rushed out eager people, who were interned for two months. They were all in poor physical condition but all shouted Banzai, and I could not stop the tears falling from my eyes. After the Japanese Forces had completely occupied the fortress of Singapore, I ran out first, followed by the others. Outside the hospital, I saw Rising Sun flags everywhere and Japanese soldiers were on duty on the streets. Thus, 300 of the Thai residents were saved by the Japanese Forces for which we are very thankful."

Japan Women's Association to Offer Prizes To Best Designer of Organization's Emblem

Feeling the need of a distinctive badge and flag, which would be in keeping with the noble traditions of Japanese womenhood, the Japan Women's Association has decided to offer prizes to the person or persons designing emblems which would be selected by the Association, it was learned here today.

The Women's Association stressed the importance of also having the badge and flag design signify the vital work the women of this country are playing in its defense, it was said.

The badge would be worn by all members of the Association while the flag would be in the possession of all branches which are scattered throughout the Empire, it was added.

Rules regarding the contest, which is to begin in the near future, will be announced shortly, it was indicated, and the results of the contest will be announced in the middle of April.

The first prize winners will receive ¥100 worth of National bonds, it was learned.

Changes Foreseen In Britain's Policy With Cripps' Entry

(Continued From Page 1)

gathered in Stockholm may be listed as:

(1) Change in the Indian policy: Sir Richard is alleged to have demanded some changes in the British Cabinet's administration policy toward India, just before his acceptance of the offered position as Lord Privy Seal. In view of the present war situation, the British Government will make a great concession to win the conciliatory attitude of India. As the result, the present Secretary of State for India and Burma, Leopold C. Amery, will be displaced by someone else.

(2) Reshuffle among defense authorities: The British general public is said to be firmly believing that the present war plight of Britain has come mainly from their armed forces' defeats in the first stage of the War of Greater East Asia. Consequently, they are greatly dissatisfied with the ways of the defense authorities in the Cabinet. To meet this popular demand, some changes in the personnel of the Cabinet Ministers directly concerned with national defense will be unavoidable.

Cripps Move Watched

D.N.B.

STOCKHOLM, February 22.—The readmission of the new Lord Privy Seal, Sir Stafford Cripps, into the Labor Party is desired by various quarters, according to London reports although it is still unknown what attitude Cripps himself will take.

Cripps who had been expelled from the Labor Party three years ago in a rather solemn fashion apparently has not yet made up his mind as to what step he would likely take in this connection. Cripps who is Britain's foremost exponent of the class of warfare ideologists and who stands in close cooperation with the Soviet Union undoubtedly will try again what he had tried already before, namely to use the Labor Party as an instrument of power for the realization of his own aims.

It is doubtful, however, whether the process of social disintegration in England has already gone far enough for reaching his objective. So far the adherents to the idea of labor peace are still in power in the Labor Party, headed above all by Labor Minister Bevin who for many years has been the most embittered opponent of Cripps and who was responsible for Cripps' expulsion from the Labor Party.

It seems therefore more likely that Cripps will make further efforts to strengthen his connections with the so-called Workmen's Clubs although he already entertains closest relations with them already. The clubs are likewise in opposition to the official policy of the Labor Party as well as to the Labor movement. The same as Cripps, these clubs are great admirers of the Soviet Union and they are generally considered as pacemakers for coming workers councils with whose aid Cripps hopes to realize his class warfare ideas.

Sumatra-Java Link Cut by Occupation Of Tandjoengkarang

(Continued From Page 1)

ing sentiment of boycott among the Chinese following the outbreak of the first Shanghai Incident.

"The population of Muntok is approximately 7,000," continued Mr. Takeda, "and of the total of 120,000 island inhabitants, about 80 per cent are of the Banka race, a mixture of Chinese and Malay blood, followed in order by the Java, Billiton and Malay races. The Banka race is more cultured than any other tribe and most of them are managing rubber plantations, engaged in trade, commerce and some in manual labor.

"Apart from the vast tin output, some 10,000 tons of rubber, high-grade sesame and rice are likewise produced in the island. The climate is very moderate because of its geographical position, while in the field of transportation, innumerable railroads are running in all directions for the transport of tin products. Automobile roads also criss-cross the entire island."

Peace in British Borneo

Within the short space of one and a half months since the outbreak of the current war, British North Borneo has fallen completely into Japanese hands. Order has been restored, and the country is pursuing the even tenure of its existence. Malays, Dyaks or Chinese, the natives all welcome the Japanese, and are working willingly to increase the production of the country.

An Asahi correspondent, who accompanied the Japanese troops in the campaign in British North Borneo was amazed at the activities of the Japanese citizens and companies even in that far-off foreign land. The Nissan Agricultural and Forestry Company, according to this correspondent, possesses vast plantations in Borneo.

"They should be called forests rather than plantations," says the Asahi newsman. "I drove a car through miles and miles of rubber forests, and through acres of green fields of hemp and coconut palms. I felt a sort of exhilaration at the thought that all these were being cultivated by the Japanese companies. The Nissan plantations at Davao alone amounted to 27,000 acres, which is as large as old Tokyo. There are about 60 Japanese employes in the firm, and they control about 500 coolies consisting of Malays, Dyaks and Chinese. A few hundred Japanese are working on their own also. Japanese rubber estates amount to 20,000 acres and they produce about 7,000,000 pounds of rubber every year. In value, this is equal to ¥7,000,000. Most of the rubber had been exported to the United States.

The hemp fields are about 7,000 acres, and they produce about 60,000 piculs of hemp every year. In value, this is equal to ¥1,800,000. The annual output of copra is 45,000 piculs the value being equal to ¥450,000. When the Japanese were imprisoned, the rubber stocks were burned and a million pounds of rubber were destroyed. Four factories were also destroyed by the British authorities.

The Nissan Company also owns in Moustein, in the north of Borneo, about 5,000 acres of hemp fields operated by emigrants sent out by the Overseas Ministry. Each man has about a block of hemp field allotted to him. There are 63 families and the total Japanese population is 450.

Fishing Industry Important

Next to agriculture, the Japanese are engaged in the fishing industry, which is controlled by the Borneo Marine Products Company. The same company has two fishing-grounds, one in Banguey Island at the north of Borneo and the other, in Shamil Island off the eastern coast.

In Banguey, about 240 men and women are engaged in fishing and canning bonito and tunny. The output is exported to foreign countries. The annual production of the Banguey fishery totals ¥6,000,000 and that of the Shamil fishery, ¥600,000.

Ichiji Orita, president of the Borneo Marine Products Company, who is now living in Tawao, has been in Borneo for the last 25 years. He is respected by all the Japanese residents in Borneo as the most meritorious pioneer in South Seas development.

Besides, there are more than 20 plantations managed by the Japanese in Tawao, including the Mitsui Company's. All these agricultural and fishery enterprises manifest the vigorous efforts made by the Japanese in the past and at the same time, promise a bright prospect of development of the Japanese in the South Seas in the future.

Timor Landing Places Remaining Enemy Bases All Within Effective Japanese Bombing Range

Timor Island, on which the Japanese Forces effected a successful landing Friday, can be likened to a rivet in a fan in the Greater East Asia Sea, declared Takeo Okubo of the Planning Board in an interview held Friday with the Yomiuri.

Mr. Okubo, charged with duties in connection with the opening of the Saipan-Deli Air Route, visited the island in November last year.

The Island of Timor is a strategical center in the Greater East Asia Sea comparable to a rivet in a fan, stated Mr. Okubo, and as a result of the Japanese occupation of the island, Port Darwin, Ambon and Sourabaya on Java Island as well come within Japanese bombing range.

He continued: "When we visited Deli last year for the purpose of inaugurating the regular air service between Japan and Portuguese Timor, the Australian and local Dutch Governments tried to obstruct our opening the route by every possible means, adopting an attitude similar to what one would expect only if we went there to open an air route for military purposes.

"With the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, the Australian and Dutch troops, in an outrageous manner, illegally occupied Portuguese Timor and thus violated Portuguese sovereignty. Then, with the turn of the war situation in favor of Japan, they had to compromise with the Portuguese Government. They promised to evacuate Dutch Timor with the arrival on the island of the Portuguese garrison but the Australian and Dutch troops do not seem to have evacuated Portuguese territory.

"By the Japanese landing on the island, the Portuguese Government will now have an opportunity to restore their lost territory and of approaching the Axis Powers."

Referring to the inhabitants on the island, Mr. Okubo stated in conclusion, that native inhabitants number 700,000 while Europeans number only some 500 inclusive of Dutch Government official in addition to several Britishers. The native inhabitants are living a primitive life, he said.

New Names Decided For Occupied Areas

(Continued From Page 1)

the previous night."

Meanwhile, another promotor of the shrine, Masaji Mori, now living in Tanabe town in Wakayama Prefecture after his long years' stay in the island as one of the most thriving barber shop operators, remarked:

"I have a picture of the promotors of the shrine taken in front of the sacred shrine on January 2, 1930. When I first visited Shonan Island as a barber, there were only two Japanese barbers inclusive of me. The shrine has gradually become the most conspicuous house of worship of the Japanese pilgrims in the neighborhood."

Chlorine Short in Colombia

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, February 22.—Due to the extreme shortage of chlorine, the people of Colombia have been suffering from a shortage of drinking water, according to a Bogota report received here today. The shortage of chlorine, which is used to disinfect drinking water, has been caused by the great decline in its shipments from the United States, the report stated.

Japan Times & Advertiser
Published by
The Japan Times, Limited
TOSHI GO, President and Editor

TOKYO OFFICE:
1, Itchome, Uchisaiwai-cho, Kojimachi-ku, Central P.O. Box 144, 352, 358.
Telephone: Ginza (57) 303, 40.., 5857, 5858, 5859, 7003.
Telegraphic Address: "Times Tokyoyubin" Furikae No. Tokyo 64848.

BRANCH OFFICES:
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YOKOHAMA, 157 Yamashita-cho, Tel. Honkyoku (2) 5240.
KOBE, 65 Naniwa-machi, Kobe-ku; Tel. Sannomiya 3970-71.

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Publisher and Printer: .... MASAO TAKAHASHI

MORNING EDITION

Japan Times & Advertiser

Incorporating
The JAPAN CHRONICLE and The JAPAN MAIL

MORNING EDITION

No. 15,406 (THE 17th YEAR of SHOWA) TOKYO, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1942 第三種郵便物認可 昭和十五年十二月二十七日 Price 15 Sen

COUNTER-ATTACK PLAN OF ALLIES SMASHED BY JAPANESE VICTORY IN SEA BATTLE OFF BALI ISLAND

Plan to Attack Fleet Near Marshalls Frustrated

PLANES TOO VIGILANT

A contemplated all-out counter-offensive against the Japanese fleet by the combined Anglo-American-Dutch fleet was frustrated Thursday by Japanese Air forces operating south of the Marshall islands, according to a Netherlands East Indies Naval officer taken prisoner by a Japanese warship which picked him up in the Lombok straits, in the Java seas, reports Domei, today.

The naval officer who was captured together with more than a dozen sailors of an allied warship which was sunk in an engagement with a Japanese destroyer on Friday night in the Java seas, revealed that the American-Dutch fleet was heading for Marshall islands in order to stage an attack on the Japanese fleet.

He said that the United States naval strategy called for a surprise raid to take place prior to President Roosevelt's Fireside Chat scheduled for next Monday. The fleet, he added, was apprehended, however by Japanese aircraft on Thursday, severely bombed and forced to retreat.

He said that immediately after receiving a cable of the Japanese aerial attack on the combined fleet south of the Marshall islands, "our American-Dutch fleet operating in the Java seas also was destroyed in a night attack by Japanese destroyers on Friday and we were rescued when we were forced to take to lifeboats."

Reports Differ

Commenting on the widely varying claims made by the American, Dutch and Allied commands regarding the results of the sea-battle off Bali Island, observers today declared that the Allied assertions constitute a dismal failure at covering up their disastrous losses.

The claims made by various American sources, they pointed out, range from two to 10 times that admitted by the Dutch authorities, who, in their turn, have failed to agree with the Allied command in Java.

These observers described various conflicting reports which the San Francisco radio called "overlapping communiques" as "naive figments of a flustered imagination."

"It becomes more than ridiculous when the aggregate number of sinkings claimed by the Americans total more than the number of warships which the Dutch asserted comprised the whole Japanese fleet encountered," they declared.

No matter what Allied claims happen to be, the observers said, the fact still remains that the Japanese are continuing to carry out landings on Netherlands East Indies territory most successfully, utilizing fully the strong Japanese fleet.

PORT DARWIN REPORTED UNDER EMERGENCY RULE

Martial Law Claimed by British—Australian Source Denies Such Rumor

Domei

LISBON, February 21.—Two conflicting allied radio reports were heard here today concerning Port Darwin with the British Broadcasting Corporation announcing that martial law had been declared in the northern Australian port, while the Australian Broadcasting Corporation denied such action.

The ABC quoted Australian Prime Minister John Curtin who stressed that there was no need for martial law in Port Darwin because of Japanese bombings of the Australian city. The ABC pointed out that London still is carrying on without martial law despite severe German bombings last year.

Timor Landing Serious

Domei

LISBON, February 20.—Previously jarred by the fall of Singapore and the terrific Japanese air attack on Port Darwin yesterday, Australian officialdom was seriously confused today with news of lightning Japanese landings on Dutch and Portuguese Timor, only two hours by air to the north of the Australian continent, it was learned here today from Canberra.

The absence of direct information regarding the latest Japanese exploits on Timor Island has caused apprehension among Australian officials, as to whether the Japanese have seized complete control of the Allied forces stationed there.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister John Curtin hastily convened the Australian Parliament for an emergency session, proceedings of which will remain a secret, the report concluded.

Bulgaria Forms Society To Strengthen Ties With Japanese Nation

Transocean

SOFIA, February 9.—A Bulgarian-Japanese society was founded here yesterday to promote cultural relations between the two countries. The Japanese Minister here, A. Yamaji, attended the society's inaugural meeting. Bulgarian General B. Radeff was appointed chairman, while an executive board was appointed, consisting of prominent Bulgarian personages, including the Lord Mayor of Sofia, Ivanoff, and the Press Chief of the Bulgarian Foreign Office, Nikolaieff.

PREMIER TO EXPLAIN NEW POLITICAL BODY

First Gathering of Nation's Leaders Picked by Government Due This Afternoon

WILL STUDY WAYS, MEANS

No Definite Decision Expected Since Session Intended as Initial Get-Together

Amid nationwide attention, the first meeting of national leaders invited by the Government to take part in the new Imperial Rule Assistance political structure will be held at the Premier's official residence at 2 p.m. today.

With the aim of introducing a new political structure in connection with the general election to be held throughout the country to choose members of the House of Representatives on April 30, the Government formulated last Tuesday regulations concerning the recommendation of the candidates for members of the House of Representatives.

The Government, meantime, asked 33 representatives from various quarters to join in discussing the best means for the intended new structure in the political world, based on the newly-issued regulations. These representatives will meet in conference for the first time this afternoon.

Of the 33 invited leaders, 30 including General Nobuyuki Abe, retired, will attend today's meeting, while the Government will be represented by Premier General Hideki Tojo, Home Minister Michio Yuzawa, Justice Minister Michiyo Iwamura, President Lieutenant-General Teiichi Suzuki of the Planning Board, Chief Secretary Naoki Hoshino of the Cabinet, Director Eiichi Moriyama of the Legislation Bureau and President Masayuki Tani of the Information Board.

Prior to the opening of the session, all attending the meeting will have a group picture taken. Then, after the meeting is called to order and after the Premier's address, the Home Minister will give a detailed explanation of the regulations concerning the recommendation of the candidates of the members of the House of Representatives formulated by the Government, after which the Government representatives will withdraw from the meeting room to allow discussion of the proposed formula by the Government.

The discussion, it is expected, will be made in respect to the following items:

(1) The establishment of a central organ to govern the proposed move for a new political structure; and

(2) The operation of the central organ thus introduced,

Over these items the meeting will not try to reach concrete views as the session is intended chiefly as the first get-together of the invited leaders. It will enter into regular activity from the next sitting.

MRS. ROOSEVELT RESIGNS

Quits Civilian Defense Post over Criticism

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, February 21.—In the face of mounting criticism in Congress and in the press, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of President Roosevelt, today tendered her resignation as Assistant Director of the Office of Civilian Defense, it is reported here from Washington.

The American First Lady, in resigning, issued a statement that she has resigned so that "those wishing to attack me" will be unable to make the Office of Civilian Defense suffer from her continued presence.

Guardians of Greater East Asia Sea

The smashing victory of an Imperial destroyer flotilla in a daring night attack on the enemy fleet in the Strait of Lombok on February 20 has just been announced. Grim, powerful greyhounds of the seas, their vigilant activities are playing a big role in wreaking havoc on the already demoralized enemy naval strength. (Censored by the Navy Ministry. No. 571)

WARSHIPS OF REICH CHALLENGE BRITISH

Three Vessels Defy Allied Blockade in Daring Dash Toward Trondheim

U.S. TANKER TORPEDOED

Sunk Off Atlantic Coast Reports Washington—Malta Raided 7 Times in Day

Domei

LISBON, February 21.—Following up the successful passage of a German naval squadron through the Dover Straits, the German 35,000 ton battleship Tirpitz and the 10,000 ton pocket battleships Admiral Scheer and Admiral Hipper have raced out of a German port and apparently headed for Trondheim, in Norway, according to an American radio heard here.

The move has been directed toward tying up the British navy in the North Sea.

U.S. Tanker Lost

Domei

LISBON, February 21.—The United States Navy Department, in a report received here from Washington today, announced that the United States oil tanker Pan Massachusetts, of 8,202 tons, has been torpedoed and has sunk off the Atlantic coast.

The announcement said 18 survivors have been landed at an undisclosed port on the Atlantic coast, revealing that 20 members of the crew died in the sinking.

British Repulsed

Domei

ROME, February 21.—The High Command, in its communique issued today at noon, announced that enemy reconnoitering parties yesterday were repulsed by counter-attacks by advance Italian formations on the North African front.

Bad weather again handicapped aerial activities, the High Command said, adding that Italian planes harassed the rear communication lines of the enemy.

The High Command revealed that an Italian torpedo boat has rammed and sunk an enemy submarine. One Italian submarine has failed to return to its base, the High Command said.

Seven Raids in Day

Domei

LISBON, February 20.—Malta, British stronghold in the Mediterranean just south of Italy, suffered seven raids yesterday, according to a Malta report received here today.

Malta, it was said, has had a total of 1,690 air raids since the outbreak of the war, of which, 260 raids were carried out during this month.

Navy Toll Given

Domei

ROME, February 20.—Authoritative Italian naval quarters, on the basis of announcements of the British Admiralty, today declared that British naval losses since the beginning of the war totaled 431,534 tons, which represents 35 per cent of the entire British fleet.

The British losses include six battleships, four aircraft carriers, 14 cruisers, 62 destroyers, and 41 submarines, all of which were reported sunk, it was said. Damaged warships, however, were not included in the above list, the report stated.

Venezuelan Vessels Recalled

Domei

ROME, February 20.—Alarmed by the increasing activity of Axis submarines off the Atlantic coast of the American continent, the Venezuelan Government today ordered 14 of its oil tankers, which have already left port, to return immediately, Stefani reported here today from Buenos Aires.

Japan Winning by Superior Leadership; Put MacArthur in Charge, Says Lippman

Walter Lippman, noted American political commentator, has aroused a great sensation among Americans by issuing a long article harshly criticising the inability of the Anglo-American military leaders in the War of Greater East Asia and recommending General Douglas MacArthur in the Philippines for the post of commander-in-chief of the Allied army forces, according to a Buenos Aires dispatch to the Nichi Nichi. Lippman's article runs substantially as follows:

"Inability of the Anglo-American military leaders to cope with the present war has been brought to light, and the whole world recognizes it. The allied Anglo-American troops are in need of reorganization to meet the new situation following the fall of Singapore. Collection of arms and men is not enough to win the war. Excellent strategy and wide-scale operations must be launched. Japanese are inferior in equipment and military strength when compared to the Allied forces, but have admirably excellent leadership in their military operations.

"Japan has no solid fortress such as Singapore, Hawaii, Gibraltar and Malta and, in spite of the fact it had a far inferior naval strength to that of the United States and Britain at the time of the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, it has kept up vigorous offensive operations all over the Pacific. It has even extended its sphere of operation to localities near the Panama Canal at present.

"The United States must recognize that experiences of its past old style warfares are entirely useless for the present-day struggle. At the time of World War I of 1917 the United States sent its expedition to the European front. However, that the Allies won the War was not due to efforts of the American expeditionary forces, but to the spiritual collapse of Germany. We must fully recognize this fact. We demand that the present Anglo-American Military Headquarters be reorganized immediately and General Douglas MacArthur be appointed commander-in-chief of the Allied forces."

MASS RESIGNATION SEEN FOR URUGUAYAN CABINET

President Baldomir Opposed in Move to Shift Up Election Date

Domei

LISBON, February 21.—It was reported from Montevideo today that the Uruguayan Cabinet is expected to resign en bloc, following dissolution of both Houses of Parliament by President Alfredo Baldomir this morning.

The dissolution action was taken after the Senate had passed a resolution repudiating the Government's policy concerning the forthcoming elections which President Baldomir reportedly is planning to hold prior to the legal expiration of his term of office on June 19, this year.

As Parliament was dissolved, the assembly building, as well as the prefectural court, was surrounded by strong police forces, while all military leaves were cancelled.

TEN SHANGHAI BRITONS RESIGN COUNCIL POSTS

Former Key Members of Municipal Body Being Replaced By Japanese, Chinese

Domei

SHANGHAI, February 21.—Following on the heels of the replacement of Major K. M. Bourne, police commissioner by Seikan Watari on February 19, the Shanghai Municipal Council has announced the resignations of all 10 Britons in key positions of the council's police force, including Captain H. M. Smyth, special deputy commissioner.

Yao Tseng-moo, former deputy commissioner, has been appointed to replace Captain Smyth, while Major Shigeru Goto has been named to fill another of the vacancies made by the resignations, it was revealed today.

G. G. Phillips, secretary and commissioner-general of the secretariat of the Shanghai Municipal Council, handed in his resignation today.

Foreign News Spotlight

Exclusive Flashes

U.S. Arrests Axis Aliens on West Coast

United States Federal authorities, in close cooperation with the various local police departments, arrested an admittedly huge, but undisclosed number of Japanese, Italians, and Germans on Saturday, in the most extensive enemy alien round-up to date. The drive was concentrated mainly on the West Coast, including Washington, Oregon, California, and the two inland states of Idaho and Arizona.

Police radio cars assisted in the systematic clean-up of all suspicious aliens from the areas close to the Mare Island Navy Yard. Simultaneous with the arrests, the authorities confiscated their possessions, including many cameras, binoculars, short wave radio receivers, and a number of other articles.

Meanwhile, the Attorney-General of the State of California declared that the most dangerous elements on the Pacific Coast were American-born Japanese who had come back to the United States after receiving their education in Japan.

American War Entry Fails to Help Allies

The Turkish paper, Tan, editorially declared recently that America's entry into the present war did not improve the war situation for the allies in the least. Summing up the recent series of Japanese successes, the paper stated that the time element was working against the allies, instead of for them, as the British and American propagandists would like to have the world believe.

The paper explained that should these reverses continue for the allies, they would find themselves without a base from which to operate, and make use of the supposedly invincible armaments which they claim are rolling off their production lines.

PALEMBANG CITY OCCUPIED BY JAPANESE IN SUMATRA; BANKA ISLE LANDING MADE

Main Oil Center of Dutch Indies Announced Under Complete Control of Imperial Forces

ARMY, NAVY JOIN IN MUNTOK DRIVE

Palembang, the most important city and largest oil producing center of Sumatra, forming one of the three business centers of the island with Medang and Padang, was completely placed under the occupation of Japanese Forces on February 17, according to an Imperial Headquarters communique issued at 3:10 p.m. Sunday. The communique reads:

"Crack units of the Japanese Army, after proceeding up the Moesi River at dawn of February 15, completely occupied Palembang, a strategic point in southern Sumatra on February 17 in close coordination with Japanese parachute troops which previously captured the Palembang airfield."

The city of Palembang is the capital of the Residency of Palembang, in southeastern Sumatra. It is 16 hours from the mouth of the Moesi River at the confluence of the Moesi and the Ogan Rivers and is about 345 nautical miles by steamer from Batavia and 288 miles from Singapore. Vessels lie alongside the wharf. The Residency of Palembang is traversed by many good roads suitable for automobile travel. There is a very fair road from Palembang to Benkoelen on the west coast. A government railway connects Palembang with Moeara Enim and Lahat. The government coal mine is situated near the former. From Lahat the Government operates an autobus service to Moeara Blitit and Benkoelen. Palembang has an excellent port with good anchorage. There is a large foreign trade business and a number of excellent firms are established there. Palembang is widely noted for oil production. The Royal Dutch Shell Company has producing wells in the Palembang, Atjeh, Langkat, Deli and other districts and operates refineries at Palembang, Brandan and Pangkalan. From Palembang the oil is carried in tankers for distribution to China, Japan, British India, Malaya, South Africa et cetera. The Nederlandsche Koloniale Petroleum Company, affiliated with the Standard Oil of New Jersey, is also opening up in south Sumatra. Main products of Palembang are coffee, rubber, petroleum, coal, rattan, pepper, damar, refined petroleum products, fish, pineapples, et cetera.

Land on Muntok Island

Japanese Army Forces, supported by naval units, effected at dawn on February 15 a successful landing in the neighborhood of Muntok, Banka Island located east of Sumatra Island, it was announced by the Imperial Headquarters at 3 p.m. Sunday.

The Japanese Forces completely occupied Pangkalpinang on the east coast of the island the same evening and are now mopping up enemy troops, the announcement added.

Banka Island belongs to Sumatra and is located to the southeast of Sumatre. Its dimension is 1,178 square kilometers, being about 300 kilometers larger than Sado Island of Japan. It has a population of 169,300, a half being Chinese. Its highest point is 510 meters. Highland districts consist of granite and lowland of red earth containing ferrous deposits. The island produces a large amount of bauxite. Tin is its main produce, being responsible for 59 per cent of the whole tin production in the Netherlands East Indies. The island's tin deposits are said to reach 8,500.000 tons. It also produces bananas, narcotics, hemp, betelnuts and others. Since 1608, the island has been a Dutch possession.

Muntok is the capital of the island and has a population of 10,000. It is an intermediate port on the Shonanko-Java regular air service. Its airfield is 1,000 meters long and 250 meters wide. Muntok is north of the Strait of Banka and though it does not have a good harbor, it is the only port of that island.

Naval Planes Raid Bali and Bawean

Domei

A JAPANESE AIR BASE, February 22.—Japanese Naval warplanes, in the course of a reconnaissance flight over the island of Bali on February 19, zoomed down on the enemy air base and destroyed on the ground five Flying Fortresses of the Boeing B-17 and B-24 types.

Meanwhile, other formations of Japanese Naval aircraft assaulted Bawean island, north of Java, and blasted enemy bases there beyond repair.

Airdromes in Java Raided

Domei

LISBON, February 21.—The Netherlands East Indies High Command today announced that formations of Japanese aircraft carried out heavy raids upon Dutch airdromes in the western and central Java, according to a report reaching here from Batavia today.

The announcement added that other Japanese planes made an extensive reconnaissance flight over southern Sumatra.

Bintan Island Taken

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE, February 21.—Japanese armed units yesterday completed a bloodless occupation of Bintan Island, about 45 kilometers southeast of Shonan Island.

The Japanese troops were said to have effected landings at two points on the island prior to occupying it.

Bintan is noted for its bauxite and tin output.

Bomb Fort Mariveles

Domei

WITH THE JAPANESE ARMY ON LUZON, February 21.—Japanese Army warplanes, taking up the offensive against General Douglas MacArthur's forces cornered on Bataan Peninsula, assaulted Fort Mariveles early yesterday morning. Enemy anti-aircraft positions were destroyed and front lines successfully raided.

All the Japanese planes returned to their bases safely.

Japanese Diplomats Depart From Mexico For U.S. Internment

Domei

VICHY, February 21.—It is reported from Washington that Yoshiaki Miura, Japanese Minister to Mexico, as well as 46 members of the Japanese diplomatic staff in Mexico City, today left Laredo, Mexican city on the United States-Mexico border, en route to a United States internment camp at White Sulphur Springs, in West Virginia. The report added that two Italian diplomats and their families are with the Japanese party.

JAPANESE CHIEFTAIN IMPRESSIVE AT TALK

Lieutenant-General Yamashita Dominated Surrender Scene—Press Deeply Affected

ENEMY ALLOWED PISTOLS

Courteous but Firm Tone Used Throughout Negotiation—Percival Downcast

Nothing impressed newspaper correspondents more than the historic scene, in which Lieutenant-General Tomoyuki Yamashita, Supreme Commander of the Japanese Forces in Malaya, and Lieutenant-General A. E. Percival, commander-in-chief of the British forces, met at the Ford Motor car factory in a suburb of Singapore on December 15, when the latter unconditionally surrendered to the former, according to the Asahi which has printed reports of a round-table conference of newspapermen on the spot. Stories told by various newspaper correspondents at Shonanto (Singapore) are summarized as follows:

"We felt rather disappointed and disheartened at the news of the surrender of the British forces at Singapore, but, when we saw a group of crest fallen British officers coming over a slope, we were very much excited. One officer carried a large Union Jack on his shoulder and another a white flag of surrender. Lieutenant-General Percival was among them.

"Hardly had they arrived at the scene of the interview than Lieutenant-General Yamashita addressed Lieutenant-General Percival in clear-cut Japanese, piercing but solemn, 'If you still want to fight, general, let's fight to the last. The Japanese Forces are in a position to launch night attacks and they can carry out their actions immediately.' Saying this, the Japanese supreme commander of robust constitution and impressive appearance, glared fiercely at the enemy garrison commander. Apparently struck by his awe-inspiring attitude, Lieutenant-General Percival hesitated for a moment before answering.

"We noted that the British officers were carrying pistols and were moved by the spirit of Bushido which permits defeated generals to carry weapons. Lieutenant-General Yamashita appeared to dominate the scene, but no overbearing attitude was evident. His language involved a lot of courteous expressions. The slim and tall Percival appeared haggard and nervous, as befitted a defeated general. At one time we feared that this interview might end in failure, as the British general asked for a delay in his answer and attempted to procrastinate.

"Lieutenant-General Yamashita silently kept nodding, as the British general spoke. At the end of the speech, Lieutenant-General Yamashita exclaimed loudly, 'Have you any idea of surrender or not? What I want to know is this one thing. Yes or No? That's all.' Lieutenant-General Percival became apparently downcast at this moment."

Fall Seen Disaster

Domei

ROME, February 21.—The Italian press, reviewing the fall of Singapore Island, unanimously declared that the loss of the British naval base is not only a military and political defeat but an economic disaster for the Allies in view of the fact that they have lost access to vast resources in Malaya and the Dutch East Indies.

The Popolo di Roma typically said that figures are sufficient to give a clear idea of the extent of the Allies' loss in the southwestern Pacific.

During the first nine months of 1941, the paper reveals, exports from Malaya amounted to $917,000,000 of which $537,000,0000 were shipped to the United States, while imports for the same period totaled $684,000,000.

Turning to Sumatra, the same journal said that the Japanese already have occupied Palembang which is one of

(Continued on Page 2)

AMERICAN LEADERS STRICKEN BY SHOCK

Roosevelt and Hull Both Reported Abed—Australian Envoy Feels Insulted

BRITISH ALSO DEJECTED

Mentality of Churchill Suspected as He Postpones Debate On Debacle in House

Special to the Hochi

SHANGHAI, February 21.—The fall of Singapore caused greater consternation to America, Britain and their allies than is generally imagined. So severe was the shock to American leaders that many of them are still confined in bed, recovering very slowly, if at all, from the effects of the fall of Britain's "impregnable" fortress in East Asia.

President Roosevelt was the first American Government leader to take to bed with his nerves shattered by the shocking news of the surrender. Secretary of State Cordell Hull was laid up, soon after.

The outside world came to know of President Roosevelt's illness after the newly appointed Australian Minister to the United States, had called at the White House to present his credentials to the President on the day that Singapore surrendered. Already the American chief executive was under the strain of the terrible news of the surrender of Singapore which had reached the White House a few hours earlier.

Admitted into his chamber, the Australian Minister greeted the President. The latter was cold and was very aloof.

Canberra Envoy Ired

The President almost snatched the documents proferred by the envoy, dispensing with all formalities.

The Minister's feelings were hurt. He felt the humiliation very much.

"I was insulted by the President," was the first word uttered by the new Minister as he received a group of news reporters upon emerging from the White House.

"The President," he went on, "had thrown to the four winds the last vestige of his faith in a nation allied with his in the war."

There was pause.

Then the Minister blurted out:

"Go to the President for any information about the Pacific!"

So saying, he hurriedly left, leaving the newspapermen agape, wondering what could have happened to the President and the Australian envoy.

On February 19 T.V. Soong, General Chiang Kai-shek's special envoy to the United States, called at the White House. The President was still ill as Mr. Soong learned from the chief executive's doctor.

"The President is ill, and cannot attend to his official duties," the attending physician explained to the distinguished Chinese official.

"I think you can see the President by February 23, when he is scheduled to make a statement on the war situation in the Pacific."

From the White House, Mr. Soong went to the State Secretary's official residence where was amazed to learn that the Secretary of State was laid up too.

He pondered, and came to the conclusion that the leaders of the American Government were concerned only about America and were not disposed to serve Chungking's interest.

British leaders, are in the gloomiest mood they have ever been in, according to information reaching the correspondent.

It is suspected that something is wrong with the mentality of British Government leaders, notably Prime Minister Winston Churchill.

House Said Gagged

The suspicions are based on the news from reliable foreign sources that speaking in the House of Commons on February 17 the Prime Minister ruled that debate on the surrender of Singapore, which should be conducted in view of the critical nature of the event, be put off until the House had restored confidence enough to permit it to discuss the event with detachment.

It is commented that Prime Minister Churchill, in desperation over the capture of Singapore, muzzled the Commons, thereby jettisoning the time-honored policy of respecting freedom of speech in the House.

Considerable significance is attached to the move Premier Churchill made on February 19 with a suddenness which started widespread speculation, in carrying out a partial reconstruction of his war Cabinet.

Alfred Duff Cooper, former representative of the War Cabinet in East Asia, insists that some man other than himself are to be held responsible for the Singapore debacle.

"I should be the last man to be recalled by the home Government," the British official who played a large part in the formation of the encirclement movement against Japan is quoted as remarking to a friend.

"If there is a man responsible for the fall of Singapore that certainly is General Sir Archibald Wavell, Commander-in-Chief of the British forces in the East," he contended.

An account of the movement of General Chiang Kai-shek in India where the latter went accompanied by Madam Chiang earlier in the month, amid conflicting reports about his possible business in India is also reported.

General Chiang has been making a round of calls on leaders of India since he arrived in New Delhi from China, says the correspondent.

The head of the Chungking regime has already seen Mahatma Gandhi and a number of other leaders of the Indian National Congress.

Information indicates that Chungking's last hope of establishing new fronts against Japan in cooperation with India has been blasted by the Mahatma's cold response to the Chungking chief's proposals for Indian aid in his struggle against Japan.

"General Chiang's visit to India was not fruitless altogether," says the report in a vein of irony." He has been decorated by the Marquis of Linlithgow, Viceroy and Governor-General of India, just imagine the air of General Chiang as he returns to Chungking with the medal, blinding gold, on the breast of his smart uniform, the air of a general returning from a successful campaign in a distant land.

"General Chiang has another thing to show to his collagues and lieutenants in Chungking as indicating that his activity in India was exceedingly fruitful. The Viceroy and Governor-General of India also gave him the exalted post of commander-in-chief of British-Chungking forces in Burma.

"It will not be long before General Chiang will realize what his post in Burma is worth. The fate of Burma will be sealed by the coming Japanese thrust at the British possession."

JAPANESE PRESS COMMENTS

Sunday, February 22

ASAHI—Fruitless Strategy Conference
HOCHI—Chiang's Last Agony
NICHI NICHI—Population Policy
KOKUMIN—Japan's War Results Contributing to Axis

Fruitless Strategy Conference

ASAHI

A Pacific operation conference is being held in London immediately following the recent reorganization of the Churchill Cabinet. This conference is being attended by military leaders of the United States, Britain, Australia and the Netherlands. What is being discussed is difficult to learn, but there is no denying the fact that it is confronted with a great obstacle, as a result of radical difference in the standpoints of the United States and Britain and lack of real strength to solve the present predicament, in which these countries find themselves. Great urgency is necessary for the United States and Britain to relieve the Netherlands East Indies and Australia, both of which are in a perilous condition. Burma is another place where they must concentrate their energy. Japanese Forces are penetrating it by surmounting all sorts of difficulties and are threatening Rangoon, capital of Burma, now that Pegu, not far from Rangoon, is imminently in danger. The situation will have far-reaching effects on both India and Chungking, which is a source of considerable worry for the London Government.

The recent intensive bombing attacks on Port Darwin, strong naval base on the northern coast of Australia, by Japanese warplanes in great formations, have struck terror right into the heart of every Australian and British. Japan's bombing raids did not stop here. All airfields in Java were subjected to relentless bombings by Japanese planes which dealt a severe blow to the joint Anglo-American and Dutch air forces. Moreover, almost all important cities of Borneo have been occupied by Japanese Forces and it will not be very long before the whole Borneo Island is placed under Japanese control. Celebes Island too will be entirely pacified in the near future. In Sumatra, Palembang was occupied by Japanese parachutist troops after a surprise attack. As the war situation enlarges this way the sea power of Sumatra has been secured by Japan. Java, the most important of the Great Sunda Islands, is in imminent danger of being occupied by Japan. Batavia, capital of Java, is thus doomed as a second Singapore.

At the London conference, two questions seem to be the main subjects of discussion. One is concentration of defense on Burma and the other that of defense on the Netherlands East Indies. Loss of either of these two means a stunning blow to the United States and Britain. It is problematical whether these enemy countries have enough room to select either of the two regions for defense concentration. Probability is that they will lose both. The loss of the Netherlands East Indies, when realized, will mean a downright death-knell to Australia.

The United States and Britain apparently vary on the question of which is more important for them, the Pacific or the Atlantic. Prime Minister Winston Churchill in the House of Commons on January 27 declared he would not neglect the Pacific. Now that the crisis in India is at its threshold and Germany's spring offensive is at hand, the Churchill Cabinet will have to cudgel its brain to decide which is more important, the Pacific or the Atlantic.

Population Policy

NICHI NICHI

Japan is now definitely faced with a great mission of establishing Great East Asia. Whether Japan will be able to bear this heavy responsibility or not depends upon proper management of its population problem. A large number of people must be sent to the many places under Japanese occupation in order to properly guide the inhabitants.

According to the population plan formulated last year by the authorities concerned, they aimed at 100,000,000 in Japan Proper by the end of 1960. However, we believe that the above one hundred million population is not enough for Japan to carry out the great task imposed on it.

We advocate, therefore, that the authorities concerned should reexamine their policy and revise it in accordance with a new situation arising from the War of Greater East Asia.

Chiang's Last Agony

HOCHI

By the fall of Singapore the greatest base of Anglo-Saxon imperialism in East Asia has collapsed. This had had far-reaching effects on Chungking. Chungkingites depending upon the United States and Britain are suffering most severely. Sun Fo and his adherents are intimidating the United States and Britain by advocating separate peace with Japan. Chiang Kai-shek and his wife, accompanied by their henchmen, flew over to India and are talking over the present situation with British and Indian leaders. Chungking's connections with a great number of Chinese residents overseas have been cut off completely.

Immediately following the fall of Hongkong, which caused the United States and Britain to go out of China, the conclusion of loans involving $500,000,000 and £50,000,000 between these two Democracies and Chungking was announced. Such a step is nothing but a gesture to offend Japan's feeling, just as they did right after Japan's recognition of the National Government at Nanking.

Chungking needs materials far more than money. Now that the Burma supply road is almost closed, Chungking is making active propaganda at home and abroad that a new road replacing the former will be established between Calcutta and Chungking by way of Chengtu, Kangting and Lhasa. Calcutta already is within bombing range of Japanese airplanes. This is a desk plan or a house of cards. The Burma road has a length of 960 kilometers. The projected route with its numerable natural difficulties incomparable with the Burma road has no prospects of realization. Other new supply roads also are projected, but all are in blueprint stages. Chungking leaders who have better understanding of the East Asiatic situation must have realized how useless it is for Chungking to offer continued resistance to Japan, depending upon the United States and Britain. Chekiang financiers who fled to foreign concessions in Shanghai and in Hongkong are now offering their cooperation with Japan. Chinese residents in the South Seas have been included into the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, whether they like it or not. Chinese in Malaya, who constitute more than a half the total Malay population, were "Mother of the Chinese Revolution." The late Dr. Sun Yat-sen and Chiang Kai-shek got an enormous amount of money from them. Chungking now needs airplanes, tanks, gasoline and other munitions.

Japan's War Results Contributing to Axis

KOKUMIN

The War of Greater East Asia, started as a measure to defend Japan's existence and prestige, has gradually developed into 'a large-scale one through which the peace and order in East Asia or even the permanent peace of the world may be won. Japan is now fighting with its Axis friends with the aim of establishing desired world peace despite all privations and hardships.

Though it appears that the mutual help existent at present between Japan and the Axis Powers is more mental than actual, closer surveys will show that the cooperation among these countries is going on in minute details and proving very effective in achieving strategic successes on their respective fronts. It may be timely to say in this connection that the brilliant war results won by Japan one after another in the current War of Greater East Asia are contributing a great deal to the joint cause of the Axis Powers.

The fact that Japanese arms has succeeded in crushing the enemies in Singapore fortress and then turning it as a most important strategic base for Japan to further its spearheads into the southwestern Pacific and the Indian Ocean is apparently having very good effect on the Axis fronts in the European theater of war.

The strategic operations of the Reich forces against their foes, it may be noted, has been seemingly staged with the double aim of driving out all British influences from Europe and then forcing the Britishers out of their homeland by landing Reich troops on the British Isles. If the troops' landing cannot be conducted easily, Germany will then make full use of all its submarines and air forces to perfectly blockade the British homeland. For this intention of Germany, the fall of Shonan Island into the hands of the Imperial Forces can never fail to give far-reaching encouragement and actual facilitation.

When the Imperial Navy has secured its hegemony over the whole area of the Indian Ocean, as will be soon realized, the transportation of vital necessities to the British Isles by way of India and East Africa will very naturally be reduced to practically nothing. Even if Britain, in the face of a great menace, dares to keep up its transportation routes, it must have recourse to large convoy fleets, which inevitably means that Britain will withdraw many war vessels out of the Atlantic and the Mediterranean. That will, in turn, cause great defects in the enemy's defense in these two sectors. Under this consideration, the most probable thing that Britain will have to face is the drastic cut in its necessities so far carried in by vessels via India and Africa.

The successful operation of the Imperial Navy in the India Ocean will further prove a dominant factor in preventing Britain from obtaining goods from southern India and incidentally cut the Suez canal so that no oil may be had from Mesopotamia and Iran. The event will be nothing short of the greatest menace to the very existence of Britain.

The Imperial Forces' recent occupation of Timor Island and the effective hits scored on the previous day on Port Darwin have brought about a most severe breach in the enemies' encirclement stratagem against Japan. Through these defeats, the enemy also suffered disrupture of its influence over the Arafura Sea, the last line of the enemy's last resistance against Japan. This threatening situation for the enemy in East Asia will prove a decisive factor in greatly reducing their strategic and economic power in Europe.

CHURCHILL IS FACED WITH FINAL CHANCE

How Long Will New British Cabinet Last? Ask Wilhelmstrasse Circles

D.N.B.

BERLIN, February 20.—The change in the British Cabinet which is the twelfth since the outbreak of the war and the ninth since Churchill's assumption of the Premiership, is regarded by the Wilhelmstrasse as the last chance left for Churchill to avoid the latent crisis.

The criticism and excitement among the British public, following their armed forces' recent defeats, had become so strong that Churchill not daring to ask for another vote of confidence, instead, decided to make some changes among his Cabinet members.

With the appointment of Sir Stafford Cripps, whom Churchill once called an unpleasant and ugly fellow, Berlin circles declare that a man who will act as Stalin's representative in London has entered the British Cabinet. Much attention, meanwhile, is being drawn here to the dismissal of Lord Beaverbrook who had been welcomed with great hopes only a few weeks ago as Minister of War Productions. He enjoyed a certain amount of support among Labor circles and undoubtedly fell a victim to the leftist wing of the Labor Party. On the other hand, he was probably not so keen on joining a Cabinet with such pronounced leftist leanings as he himself is a typical representative of British capitalism.

Berlin is asking how long this new Cabinet will be able to stand up in spring when it will have to defend the political and strategic failures of Britain's conduct of the war before Parliament.

Doubts Still Remain

D.N.B.

STOCKHOLM, February 20.—The reform of his War Cabinet, consisting now of seven members, which Churchill had to carry out under the pressure of Parliament as well as public opinion, was only to a certain extent received favorably in England.

Messages from London reveal that political circles there, although underlining the determination of the Premier, show some doubts as to whether these allegedly bold measures are fitting to the purpose. The question also is being raised as to what Churchill has actually yielded of his personal powers, to which the general reply is: Very little! Sir Stafford Cripps is not agreeable either to the orthodox wing of the Labor Party or to the ultra-conservatives or even the liberals. The News Chronicle coldly remarked that "political observers" see in Cripps' appointment an even closer cooperation with the Soviets. A painful surprise was prevalent among conservative quarters over the dismissal of Lord Beaverbrook, allegedly for reasons of health, who only at the beginning of the year was greeted so loudly when he was appointed Minister of War Productions. Far greater welcome than to the appointment of Cripps was accorded by the conservatives to the new Minister of War Productions, Oliver Lyttleton, who before the war had good connections with the city and who is regarded as an efficient administrator.

Only Emergency Solution

Reports from London all agree, however, that the new Cabinet is only an emergency solution which will not prevent the threatening crisis but merely postpone it. It appears as if the new Cabinet in itself contains certain germs of conflict for well informed circles are of the opinion, according to reports from London, that Churchill within a few months, or possibly even weeks, will be confronted with an even bigger crisis. For the time being, however, the changes which Churchill has already carried through and those which are still in preparation will suffice to give him a new vote of confidence by the House of Commons. Thus the Aftonbladet, commenting on the present Cabinet change in London, states that this will only "provisionally alleviate the political crisis in England." It can, however, not yet be said whether the new Cabinet is to the liking of the Prime Minister himself. It appears as if Churchill has been forced to make certain concessions in order to postpone the inevitable final decision. The military situation, the paper emphasizes, will not be changed in any way by political reshuffles.

Regarding the Cabinet change, two facts are particularly significant, namely the dismissal of the great favorite Lord Beaverbrook and the appearance of Cripps in the British War Cabinet. So far the view is general that Churchill is looking upon his opponent, Cripps, with much skepticism, because he sees in Sir Stafford something that was in his opinion unenglish and revolutionary.

With Cripps, the most ardent and foremost champion of Moscow now come into power, it will without doubt confuse the situation to such an extent that it should be regarded as doubtful whether Churchill will be able to once more impose on the British people his political aims.

Move to Pacify Conservatives

The actual reason why Churchill suddenly decided to change his Cabinet according to London report, must be seen in the fact that the Conservative Party on Thursday evening seriously discussed the proposal of submitting a vote of non-confidence in the Government. Upon learning of this Churchill made up his mind to pacify his conservative followers, at least for the time being, although Sir Stafford Cripps is being looked upon by them as an unwelcome burden. The opposition to Cripps in the Labor circles appears to have grown weaker especially since the ex-ambassador had been welcomed with so much applause by the Trade-Unionists and Workmen's Club. The right wing of the Labor Party, therefore, considered it wiser to await further developments. But there is still a certain sore feeling among the members of this party because of the fact that it is still represented in the Cabinet by only two persons, namely Attlee and Bevin after Greenwood had been dropped by Churchill. Cripps, it will be recalled, does not belong to the Labor Party any longer since January 1939 when he was excluded from that body for his marxist tendencies.

English Disappears From Hongkong Shops As Chinese Cooperate With Japanese Army

Hongkong, now, under Japanese administration, is rapidly returning to be a thriving city as peace and order has been restored. With rehabilitation work progressing smoothly, business has again resumed as a large influx of Chinese is daily pouring into the former British Crown Colony, and it is claimed that about 600,000 Chinese residents who had evacuated, have recently returned.

What is most striking about new Hongkong under Japanese control, states an Asahi dispatch from the city on Friday, is the absence at the shop front of any sign-board carrying English letters, which is today displaced by Chinese characters done in splendid calligraphy.

That the Chinese are beginning to realize the leadership of Japan in Greater East Asia, the dispatch declared, is exemplified by the rousing celebration held by them on February 18 to commemorate the fall of Singapore. In spite of the heavy rainfall of the early morning, a long procession participated in by various civilian organizations, paraded through the principal streets from the plaza in front of the building of the Hongkong-Shanghai Banking Corporation.

The procession led by a brass band kept on shouting Banzai at short intervals, the Rising Sun flags carried by the participants going high up in the air with each cheer of Banzai. The dispatch explained the shouting of Banzai by the Chinese had a peculiarly auspicious sounding.

Hongkong, the dispatch added, formerly existed as a great consumption center as well as a base for the anti-Axis countries' exploitation of East Asia. Populated as it formerly was by about 1,500,000 people, the city had no meaning except as a trading center. It is from this standpoint that the Japanese Army responsible for the municipal administration, is anxiously planning to give suitable means of livelihood to all the returning Chinese.

The rehabilitation work now proceeding in full swing in all branches of activity in the city, is being greatly stimulated through the efforts of various committees organized under the sponsorship of the Japanese garrison. Such leading local papers as the Hongkong Lipao and Tzuyu Lipao have all resumed their publications since January 1.

On the other hand, banking institutions such as the branches of the Yokohama Specie Bank and the Bank of Taiwan resumed business on January 23 followed by 22 other local banks including the Central and the Oversea Banks, which opened their business again from February 6 and 9 respectively.

Swiss Milk for Greeks

Transocean

BERNE, February 11.—The Swiss Federal Council granted an application of the United Relief Committee of the International Red Cross for an export license for considerable quantities of milk products from Switzerland for relief work among Greek children, it was announced last night.

DUTCH INDIES MOVE IS BACKED BY REICH

Japan Needs Colony More Than Holland, Avers Spokesman Of Wilhelmstrasse

"Japan needs the Netherlands East Indies more than does the Netherlands. The world today must forsake its old-fashioned viewpoint on overseas colonies," declared Chief Schmit of the German Information Department during his interview with foreign newspapermen at the German Foreign Office last Thursday, reports a Berlin dispatch to the Nichi Nichi. This declaration, the dispatch adds, is interpreted as a definite answer of Germany to the propaganda, "Does Germany overlook Japan's taking of the Netherlands East Indies?" Japan's strength has led the situation in this direction, it points out. The Nichi Nichi dispatch runs substantially as follows:

'Japanese warships have already entered a port in Sumatra and as a result. Java's fate is like a candle flickering before a storm. The whole of the Netherlands East Indies, the greatest treasure islands among all European colonies, are about to fall into the Japanese hands without much difficulty. In an interview with newspapermen, the chief of the German Information Department, in answer to a question of a Danish newspaperman 'How do you see the relations between the Netherlands East Indies and the Netherlands?', made the following answer:

"'It is a matter of course that differences exist between the viewpoint of the Netherlands on the basis of an old order viewpoint of its colonies and Japan's viewpoint of seeing the Netherlands East Indies from the standpoint of constructing a new East Asiatic order. But Japan needs the Netherlands East Indies more than the Netherlands does. The world today must eliminate its old-style viewpoint of colonies.'

"While Germany takes this impressive stand, the exiled Dutch Government in London still clings to the United States and Britain in desperation. An article contributed to the Times, London, by Dr. O. S. Gerbrandy, Premier of the exiled Dutch Government, under the title 'Need to solve East Asia War in Short Period,' bespeaks this. His article appeared in its issue of January 13 and is substantially as follows:

"'Peace will return to Europe, if the Allies win on the European fronts. Their victory will at once bring peace, but the situation in East Asia is much different. Peace will visit East Asia only when the war is won by the Allies in a brief period. Asian races will act on their own instinct. Japan's slogan 'Asia for the Asiatics' will appeal to their psychology and will be deep-seated among them. Occidental culture in East Asia planted by Europeans is not deep-rooted and will be destroyed by the reawakening of Asian races. The small number of Asians who have been educated by Europeans can do nothing to affect the general situation. The longer the war lasts the more will they listen to Japan. Even if the Allies win the war, true peace will not come. Unless the East Asia War is brought to a quick end, European culture and business interests as well as their territories will be lost forever from East Asia.'"

U.S. Costs Soaring

Transocean

BUENOS AIRES, February 11.—The price index published in the United States yesterday for the week ending January 31 again shows a slight increase in the cost of living compared to the previous week. The latest index number is 165, compared with 164.7 for the previous week. These figures are based on the price index fixed at 100 in August, 1939.

Japanese Chieftain Impressive at Talk

(Continued From Page 1)

the most important centers of the Royal Dutch Oil Company.

The paper asserted that out of 8,000,000 tons of oil produced in the Netherlands East Indies in 1939, 5,500,000 tons came from Sumatra where Palembang is an oil kingdom with pipe-lines pits and refineries.

The Anglo-American tragedy has not yet vanished with Malaya and the Netherlands East Indies for Australia already is under Japanese air bombardment.

TROUBLES CAUSED BY WAR AFFECT TURKISH ECONOMY

But Premier Says Measures Taken to Protect People's Livelihood

Transocean

ISTANBUL, February 2.—In a broadcast to the Turkish people last night, Premier Refik Saydam explained Turkey's economic situation and the measures taken in this connection for the protection of the Turkish people.

Turkey, he said, was not participating in the war, but troubles caused by the war had affected the country and intensified the crisis. In course of time the Turkish people had learned to adapt themselves to the requirements of the hour and would understand legislative measures based on the experiences of the past months.

The Premier pointed out that the chief concern of the Government was the control of imports and exports and the just distribution of goods in the country as well as an increase of agricultural production. To achieve the latter, the Government was granting agricultural credits, particularly to increase the cultivation of maize, potatoes, beans, lentils and peas.

In conclusion, the Premier condemned hoarding and said that Turkey had sufficient raw materials and foodstuffs. He also strongly criticized speculations in gold.

SWISS NATIONAL BANK NOW HOARDING GOLD

Holdings During Past Six Months Increase to About 2,880,000,000 Francs

Transocean

BERNE, February 9.—For the past six months, the Swiss National Bank has been selling paper dollars and hoarding gold, it is learned in well-informed quarters.

While up to the middle of last year the bank continuously absorbed paper dollars, from June until the end of last December it reduced its paper dollar holdings from 1,310,000,000 to 680,000,000 Swiss francs.

During the same period the bank increased its gold holdings from a little below 2,280,000,000 francs to 2,880,000,000 francs.

Swiss economic quarters interpret this flight of dollars from the leading Swiss monetary institution as a change of attitude among leading Swiss financial quarters toward the security of the dollar.

AXIS LEADERS HEAR ABOUT SAIGO'S LIFE

Military Attaches and Aides Guests of Great Patriot's Grandson on Sunday

Military, naval and air attaches of the Axis Powers in Tokyo and their assistants were told yesterday of the great deeds of the noted patriot Takamori Saigo, one of the most illustrious figures in Japanese history.

As guests of Marquis Kichinosuke Saigo, a grandson of the patriotic leader of the Restoration, the Axis representatives listened for almost an hour to a stirring account of the noble deeds of Saigo. The reception, which was held at the Saigo residence in Ikebukuro, afforded the Axis military representatives a rare opportunity to study, in intimate surroundings, the life of the man who, more than anyone else, made possible the Restoration.

Lieut. Col. Hikoma Yokoyama of the General Staff introduced the guests and interpreted the Japanese discourse in fluent French. Those present included: Col. Alfred Kretschmer, German Military Attache; Col. Guido Bertoni, the Italian Military Attache; Col. Nicolas Radulesco, the Rumanian Military Attache; Rear-Admiral Contrammiraglio Carlo Balsamo, the Italian Naval Attache; Major Riccardo Federici, Italian Air Attache; Lieut. Commander Werner Trendtel, Assistant German Naval Attache; and Maj. F. J. Petersdorff of the German Military Attache's office.

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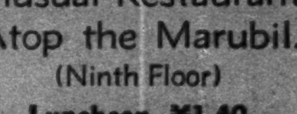

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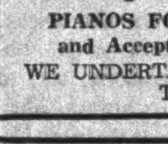

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ENEMY LEADERS AID JAPAN'S WAR CAUSE

Roosevelt and Chiang Deserve To Be Eliminated as Gods Of Darkness

President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, who gave Japan an opportunity to undertake a gigantic task of saving the East Asian races from the Anglo-American claws should be "deified," not as the Gods of Light but as the Gods of Darkness, states Michitsugu Sato, a well known commentator, writing in the February issue of the Bungei Nippon. His article in detail runs as follows:

"The late Dr. Genpachi Mitsukuri, a famous historian, made the following denotation in an article relative to the Russo-Japanese War in his lecture of Occidental history.

"'The non-fulfilment on the part of the Russians of a promise to withdraw their troops meant a grave question involving the very existence of the Japanese Empire and consequently, the public opinion in the country gradually mounted until the height of indignation was reached.

Russo-Japanese War

"'During those days, the Russian expansionists refused to understand the stout determination of the Japanese people, miscalculated the real might of the Imperial Forces, tried to suppress Japan by threats, and schemed to accomplish their ever accumulating plot by availing themselves of this opportunity. As a result, the Russo-Japanese negotiations ended in a rupture, the two countries entering into a state of war in February, 1904.

"'Once the hostilities started, however, the unpreparedness of the Russians, inefficiency of their officers, deterioration in their administrative power and the rebellious attitude among the structural members were vividly disclosed whereas Japan manifested to the world the completeness of her equipment, superiority of military strategy, courage and bravery of the officers and men and, last but not the least, the iron will of the Japanese people at large. The differences in these points resulted in successive reverses for the Russian forces, leading to their eventual collapse.'

"When the word 'Russia' is replaced by 'America' in the above quotation, it will fit perfectly into the Japan-United States relations that led up to the current War of Greater East Asia. History is said to repeat itself, and it did, but in what a manner!

U.S. Pressure

"The United States estimated the power by the size of a country, depended too much on the richness of her resources, placed too much confidence in her navy and air forces and above all, ruefully contended that Japan has been considerably weakened through five years of hostilities with the Chungking administration. Thus, they placed them under a hallucination that Japan should be, and can be, subjugated by threat, presenting such utterly impossible demands as the unconditional withdrawal of troops from the Chinese continent, non-recognition of the new National Government of Nanking, and renunciation of the Tripartite Pact, etc., during the erstwhile Japanese-American talks.

"The Japanese public, which was not informed of the war preparations then under way, strongly criticized the lukewarm attitude taken by the Government, especially when it vaguely felt the American pressure during the Japan-United States conference. But the long-awaited hour had finally arrived.

"On December 7, 1941, Cordell Hull, the American Secretary of State, told the reporters in a haughty air during a press conference that he is not at all satisfied with Japan's reply relative to the negotiations. Several hours later, however, he was probably telling himself that he is not at all satisfied with the ability of the navy of his own country. The crushing defeat suffered by the American fleet at Pearl Harbor was so pitiful that it was comical rather than tragic in view of the tall-talks she spread about its 'might' before the outbreak of the war.

Churchill vs. Roosevelt

"The downfall of Britain is rather pathetic since it resembles the felling of a giant timber which had grown through centuries, but that of the United States may be likened to the fall of a big gawky fellow, presenting a comical picture. Winston Churchill, the British Premier, therefore, can be called the hero of a tragic drama but Franklin D. Roosevelt, the American President, fits perfectly into the role of a hero in a comic strip.

"Since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, the Japanese people have been renewed of many lessons. First, the thing that is behind the invincibility of the Imperial Forces.

"Such determination as would make a man willing to sacrifice his life is not believed to originate out of desire to protect democracy, glory of God or out of an abstract idea. There have been instances where the fact that he is fighting for God or for justified lessons has increased the intrepidity of a man, but in such cases, unconscientious prudence has always been concealed deep in the man's heart.

"However, in the heart of a Japanese soldier going to the battlefront, there is but one thought, that of rendering services in return for Imperial favors and to guard the lifeline of his Fatherland, a thought representing the supreme and sublime spirit.

Life Is Secondary

"The deep sentiment of loyalty and patriotism is the culmination of religion and moral principle of the Japanese race. The super-human achievements such as the annihilation of the United States Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor, the extermination of the mainstays of the British Asiatic Fleet off Malay Peninsula and other brilliant victories are nothing other than the crystallization of the strong will on the part of the Japanese people to place secondary importance on life whenever the cause of the State is involved. Such activities are the symbolization of national polity and consequently, represent the glittering beam of the August virtue of His Majesty the Emperor.

"Second is the conservative and concessive attitude taken by the Japanese Government until the zero hour such as demonstrated until the very last moment that led up to the Sino-Japanese War, the Russo-Japanese War, and the present War of Greater East Asia.

"This concessive attitude is not just a bluff in the diplomatic negotiation but born out of whole-hearted devotion which the history of Japan clearly indicates. I am firmly convinced that this also is traceable to the dignified national constitution. The Japanese Empire is a nation which has been existent since time immemorial and because they highly respect this long life, the responsible statesmen can never run a risk of exposing it to a danger.

"There are perhaps a certain number of elements among the higher-ups of the Japanese Government, who overestimate the real strength of the enemy Power or, cajoled the agents of the hostile countries, hold friendly feelings toward such Powers. Even these people, however, are not traitors since what they hold deep in their heart is a sincere patriotism to maintain peace and stabilization of the State.

"During the course of the Japan-United States negotiations, some of the radical elements demanded for an immediate cessation of the talks and to dispatch armed forces to the Netherlands East Indies at once. Theirs was an utilitarian view of securing the resources indispensable to the Japanese nation in utter disregard of the Anglo-American protests, but the movement of the Japanese Empire, which has for years been made following sincere deliberations, was not such a rash step.

Cause of Present War

"The Japanese Forces, which go into action only at the Imperial Command, could not, and did not, take actions which would run contrary to the principle of righteousness. Consequently, the wrath of the Japanese Empire was manifested in the form of openly declaring war on America and Britain and attacking the enemy bases situated at several thousand miles away.

"At the early stage of the China Affair, I was one of the many who waited impatiently for the Japanese Forces to occupy foreign concessions in China at this unique opportunity. But it was established in my mind always that such unlawful and unjust actions are not likely on the part of the Japanese Forces; nevertheless, once they rise in arms for a justified cause, various impediments and defense preparations accumulated through years can be reduced to a mere myth by the might of the Japanese units, as proved in the current War of Greater East Asia.

"The third is the reason for the debacle suffered by the American Asiatic Fleet at Pearl Harbor. The Americans have a misconception that efficient weapons will go a long way toward success in warfare, which is ascribable to their crushing set-back.

"The value of such efficient weapons can be estimated only when they are put into actual utility. The same rueful contention was held also by General Chiang Kai-shek at the outset of the China Affair, who imported many most up-to-date airplanes from the United States and bragged to the world what his men can do to the Japanese air units. However, what actually took place as the hostilities progressed was that the majority of his air force were annihilated not long after the outbreak of the conflict.

Washington Conference

"When the Anglo-American Powers forced upon Japan a discriminatory ratio of 10 to 6 at the Washington Conference, the Japanese naval officers and men underwent strenuous efforts in making up for the numerical inferiority by vigorous trainings, resulting in the overwhelming victories at Hawaii and off the Malay coast. One way of looking at things is that the Washington Conference, indirectly, was the cause of brilliant accomplishments of the Imperial Navy since the start of the current war.

"Chiang Kai-shek is a despicable enemy, who caused deaths to many of our brave and gallant officers and men, and the Japanese people can never forgive his sins. On the other hand, however, it is possible that unless the air bases in the Chinese continent came into Japanese control as a result of his folly, the Japanese nation would not have risen in arms against America and Britain. Had not President Roosevelt exercised such pressure, economic and otherwise, on Japan as he did, it is highly probable that the opportunity of liberating the East Asian races would never have come.

"In this sense, both Chiang Kai-shek and President Roosevelt rendered services to the Japanese Empire and consequently, they should be 'deified' but not as Gods of Light. Instead, they should be apotheosized as Gods of Darkness, and eventually, erased from the face of the earth to prevent further evil effects on mankind."

Setting Example for Home-Fronters

Buying Patriotic Bonds isn't limited to the people behind the guns as is evidenced here in the line-up of happy soldier lads, somewhere in the Philippines. Fighting and saving . . . these men are setting an example which the folks, safe and sound in their homeland, will do well to emulate. (Censored by the War Ministry)

Europe's Interests No Issue in N.E.I. Fate, Says Berlin

D.N.B.

BERLIN, February 19.—"Europe's economic interests are no issue in those areas where our ally is erecting his empire" declared the spokesman of the Wilhelmstrasse with regard to the fate of the Netherlands East Indies. In drafting the new Europe, the fundamental interests of the past political systems and their imperialistic conceptions will play no role but the interests of the peoples of Europe and their allies in East Asia will be exclusively considered, the spokesman said.

Contemporary Japanese Literature

(Continued From Page 4)

the life of such common, incompetent persons.

* * *

Zenzo Kasai was born in January, 1887, in the city of Hirosaki, in Aomori Prefecture. At one time he was a student at Toyo College. During this period he secured the opportunity, through Shusei Tokuda, of associating with the young literary scholars Kazuo Hirotsu, Seiji Tanizaki, Gyofu Soma, and others; and in September, 1912, he joined them in the issuance of the magazine Kiseki (The Miracle), thus making his literary start. His maiden work Kanashiki Chichi (Pathetic Father) was recognized as a work possessing a unique style, but it was after the publication of his Ko-o-Tsurete (With Children on My Hands) in March, 1918, in the magazine Waseda Bungaku (Waseda School of Literature) and, about a year later, the issuance of his collection of short stories under the same title, that he finally established his position as a writer.

The distinguishing feature of his writings—though there are two or three notable exceptions—resides in the fact that they are all autobiographical, their subjects having been selected from his own life and surroundings. It is said that the Shinkyo-shosetsu, which depicts the atmosphere of individual psychology—one of the characteristics of modern Japanese literature—has in him reached its greatest depth. Kohan Shuki (Lakeside Notes) and Suikyo-mono no Dokuhaku (A Drunkard's Soliloquy), the work of his later years, are a good guide to an understanding of the latter half of his career. He died in 1928 at the age of 41.—(K.B.S.)

Coffee As Beverage Has Interesting Tale

(Continued From Page 4)

nourish sedition, spread lies, and scandalize great men, it might also be a common nuisance."

Anyhow, heavy taxes were imposed and, as one consequence, extensive smuggling of the commodity set in. It is noteworthy that the three principal dietetic beverages were introduced into Great Britain within a few years of each other. Cocoa was the first of the three actually to appear in Europe, having been brought to Spain from South America; coffee followed, coming from Arabia by way of Turkey; and tea, the latest of the series, came from China by means of the Dutch.

Progeny of One Plant

Down to 1690 the only source of coffee supply was Arabia, but in that year Governor-General Van Hoorne of the Dutch East Indies received a few coffee seeds from traders who plied between the Arabian Gulf and Java. These seeds he planted in a garden at Batavia, where they grew and flourished so abundantly that the culture, on an extended scale, was immediately commenced in Java. One of the first plants grown in the island was sent to Holland as a present to the Governor of the Dutch East India Company. It was planted in the Botanic Garden at Amsterdam, and young plants grown from its seeds were sent to Surinam, where the cultivation was established in 1718.

Ten years later the plant was introduced in the West Indian Islands, and gradually the culture of coffee spread throughout the New World, till now the progeny of the single plant sent from Java to Holland produces more coffee than is grown by all the other plants in the world. Cultivation has now become general throughout all civilized regions in the tropics. More than half the coffee supply of the world, however, is produced in Brazil although some people say that Guatemalan coffee is the best.

DRIVE TO GET CLOTHES FOR GERMANS OVER TOP

Czech People Show Good Faith By Collecting Apparel for Nazi Troops

Transocean

PRAGUE, February 8.—The Czech campaign to collect woolen clothing and winter apparel for German troops on January 5 to 14 and described at that time as a sort of plebiscite of the Czech people, produced the magnificent result of 3,078,544 articles.

These included 69,146 pieces of furs, 36,230 woolen blankets, 216,950 sweaters, 5,500 pairs of woolen socks and stockings and 3,500 leather coats.

The result has been reported to the Deputy Reich Protector by President Hacha, who has received a letter of thanks.

"I wish to thank you," the Deputy Reich Protector wrote, "for your appeal to the Czech people to do its share for the German soldiers who are shielding all of Europe from the Bolsheviks. The Czech people has thus demonstrated its willingness to come to the aid of the soldiers fighting not only against the Bolsheviks but winter weather as well. I wish to thank particularly the working people who have done their share, although they themselves do not possess much. Such spirit is indeed worthy of mention."

BRITISH RESHUFFLE SIGN OF WEAKNESS

Cripps, Leading Churchill Critic, Gets Place in War Cabinet; Defeats Force Change

D.N.B.

BERLIN, February 21.—The transformation of the British Cabinet is a definite proof of Churchill's considering his position no longer as unshakable, according to the Volkischer Beobachter. For months the prime minister had ignored all wishes aiming at such a development. Again and again he knew how to calm Parliament by his personal prestige and by his eloquence, and to put off any changes in the cabinet. A situation had come about in which Churchill exerted dictatorial powers and Parliament was condemned to play an insignificant role. It took the three-fold defeat in Libya, at Singapore and in the English Channel to remind the Premier of the fact that his position had not been bestowed upon him as a personal favor of God, but that he owed it to the confidence of Parliament. The storm of indignation at this chain of catastrophes, sweeping through the British public, and the general outcry demanding the punishment of the responsible persons, forced Churchill to relent.

It is ridiculous, therefore, that the British press is acting as if the Cabinet transformation had been motivated by Churchill's desire. This interpretation does not correspond to actual facts in the least. The Government was transformed under the iron law of necessity and because the prime minister was afraid of having to cede the initiative to his critics.

Sir Stafford Cripps has been appointed Lord Privy Seal and at the same time Leader of the House of Commons. This will enable him to represent the prime minister there and to defend the Government against the Opposition in his place. Sir Stafford Cripps has thus changed his role. From the most dangerous critic of the Government he has been converted into a shield behind which Churchill can take cover. At first sight this looks like a clever move of the prime minister. Furthermore, such a gesture corresponds to an old political tradition. In reality, the appointment of Sir Stafford Cripps means, however, that the antagonism between the Government and the Opposition, the prime minister and his critics, will be transferred from the House of Commons into the British War Cabinet.

Personal and Political Enemies

Churchill and Sir Stafford Cripps have been personal and political enemies for a long time. The one is a conservative die-hard; the other an intellectual with leanings toward the Left. The one comes from a great family without ever having been personally rich, while the other inherited a great fortune which he increased still more in his career as an attorney. In matters of foreign policy the two men held such conflicting views that Churchill called pro-Russian speeches of Cripps "disgusting." Churchill and Cripps resemble each other only in so far as both of them were distrusted by the parties to which they belonged. Both are very ambitious and ruthless in their craving for power.

In the future Churchill will have to spend much of the time he has had to sacrifice to Parliament so far upon a struggle with Sir Stafford Cripps at the conference table. As Lord Privy Seal the latter does not assume any charge that will overburden him with work. Cripps will thus have plenty of time to pay minute attention to all of Churchill's measures. There can be no doubt that he will interfere with them whenever and wherever he sees a chance to do so.

Cripps' "Froth-blowers' Club"

What the British people is expecting of Cripps can best be illustrated by a simile taken from the past of this man. Some years before the war, Cripps as the patron of a London hospital hit upon an original idea to procure funds for this institute. He founded the so-called "Froth-blowers' Club." Its members were to undertake the obligation to drink a glass of beer only after having blown off the froth beforehand. With the payment of a monthly fee of one and a half shillings their membership was certified on an insigna which could be worn in the button hole. This joke met with general applause and made Cripps more quickly known than his political ambitions. Today he is to blow the dust off the British war machine; in other words, he is to stir up a fresh wind in the conduct of the British war.

To what aim he will bend his efforts can easily be imagined. With Cripps, a man who is in Stalin's confidence is entering the British Cabinet for the first time. There he is facing Churchill, the representative of Roosevelt. Thus the new British Government is completely controlled by its two allies. One can hardly imagine that the activity of the Government, the uniformity of the war conduct and the relationship between the Government and Parliament will be improved by this combination. It remains to be seen how the struggle between Churchill and Cripps will develop. The latter has before his eyes the warning example of Bevin, who, accompanied by similar hopes of the Opposition, once took his seat in the war cabinet, and today has the reputation of a man completely used up by Churchill.

Halifax Not Trusted

Beaverbrook's elimination is quite natural in this connection. Beaverbrook enjoyed a personal popularity among the workers and therefore aroused the suspicions of the Labor bureaucracy. Presumably the latter gave its approval to Cripps' entry into the Cabinet only on the condition of Beaverbrook's removal. It is possible that Beaverbrook will go to Washington, where Halifax, although he is enjoying the confidence of the American upper class, is not trusted by the President and his Jewish brain trust. In any case Halifax is to counterbalance Litvinov, so that Beaverbrook may perhaps be more useful in the United States, for the time being, than he would be at home. Not even the British are believing, however, that the "new team," as the British press calls it, will be able to change Great Britain's position in any way.

Britain's War Costs Huge

Domei

LISBON, February 19.—Sir Kingsley Wood, Chancellor of the Exchequer, at the House of Commons on February 19 stated that the total war expenses of Britain during one year ending December 31, 1941 exceeded by more than 50 per cent, the total amount of national revenue during the corresponding period, according to a London report received here today.

U.S. Restricts Rubber Use

Transocean

STOCKHOLM, February 12.—The use of rubber for certain products in the United States has been banned by the War Production Broad, according to reports from Washington. This step, it is hoped, will save the country 25,000 tons of rubber anually. Even old reclaimed tires may be rationed.

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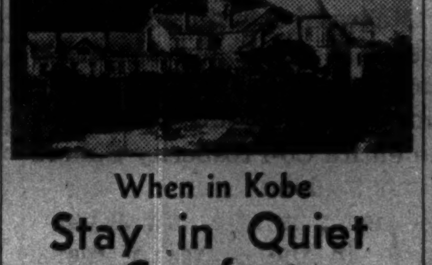

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TOKYO, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1942

On the Establishment of a Co-Prosperity Sphere Economy

With the fall of Singapore, Japan's military operations in East Asia will in the near future enter into a new phase. The establishment of a sound economy for the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, however, is a colossal enterprise which will require many years. The hearty cooperation of all the East Asiatic nations, with Japan leading the way, will naturally be necessary in order to formulate and to enforce a plan to attain this objective.

Concerning the establishment of this Co-Prosperity Sphere economy, appropriate bodies in the Government and in private quarters have already been conducting elaborate study and investigation for several years. When an opportune occasion arises, Japan should therefore make public the results of this investigation for the purpose of enlisting the positive support of the nations of East Asia.

Until such a revelation is made, it will be difficult to comment concretely upon individual issues, but it can be presumed that the fundamental principles of Japan's plan for a Co-Prosperity Sphere economy may be epitomized as follows:

1. The economy of French Indo-China, Malaya, the Netherlands East Indies, and the Philippines has heretofore been formulated and operated as the object of exploitation by the capitalist countries of America and Europe. Hereafter, however, these regions will form themselves as component parts of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, and naturally their economic condition will undergo some changes to a greater or lesser extent. To be concrete, the production of certain materials catering exclusively to the industries of Europe and America will have to be curtailed to some extent, while the production of certain others regarded as essential for the economy of the Co-Prosperity Sphere will have to be increased.

It is inevitable that some confusion will arise in the course of such a change. The peoples of East Asia will undoubtedly be only too glad to accept a certain amount of transitory confusion of this type as a necessary evil to complete the radical transfer of this part of the world from an economy relying on Europe and America to the autonomous economy of a Co-Prosperity Sphere. The fact of the matter is that the various peoples of East Asia have experienced difficulties in the past as the result of the fact that industries turning out materials in their countries have received severe blows periodically at short intervals as business recessed or advanced in the capitalistic countries of Europe.

2. Today, when the gold standard is in suspension the world over, the course to be followed in dealing with the question of currency among the countries of East Asia is a tremendous question. There is no doubt, however, of the existence of an urgent need for the establishment of a general exchange agreement to apply to East Asia with Japan as the center. It is but natural that the currencies of the countries in the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere should sever connections with the pound sterling or the dollar and be linked instead to the yen.

There is the question of how to bring about an agreement among the countries of East Asia as to the exchange value of their currencies in terms of the yen. There are fears that an exchange agreement which would make possible a wide gap between the official and the market rates of the currency of any one of these countries might be an obstacle to the establishment of the economy of the Co-Prosperity Sphere. Currency is nothing more than a medium of exchange. The important thing is that the various countries in the Co-Prosperity Sphere should be enabled to increase the production and facilitate the distribution of commodities of common necessity. The question of currency in the Co-Prosperity Sphere must be approached from this angle. An exchange agreement disadvantageous to one country in the Co-Prosperity Sphere, for example, would hamper the production and distribution by that country of commodities destined to other countries in the Sphere, placing co-prosperity economy in a state of lameness. The result will be the disturbance of the conditions of the currency.

It is not, of course, the intention of Japan to replace Britain and America in exploiting the countries of East Asia. On the contrary, her real object is to emancipate the peoples of East Asia from the clutches of Britain and America, which have been the source of ill effects for centuries. Consequently, in fixing an exchange agreement based on the Japanese yen, Japan should, and will no doubt, take into consideration the interests of the entire Co-Prosperity Sphere rather than the advantages of Japan alone.

An exchange agreement, however, is after all a man-made arrangement. Consequently, in the course of many years of operation, instances may arise where its provisions, although based on justice, may become inappropriate for the then existing state of affairs, in which case a revision would become necessary. Constant revisions of the agreement, on the other hand, would be prone to cause derangements in the economy of the Co-Prosperity Sphere. It is therefore to be hoped that Japan and the various East Asiatic countries will be able to cooperate in establishing an exchange agreement which can be enforced for years to come.

Japan, needless to say, is the leader among East Asiatic nations, and in view of such an important role, she should assume complete responsibility and maintain complete faith in the establishment of a sound economy in the Co-Prosperity Sphere. At the same time, however, it should not be overlooked that the cooperation of the peoples of East Asia will go a long way toward the successful consummation of the ultimate goal.

Whether or not the economy of the Co-Prosperity Sphere will take shape along the lines of the plan thus outlined is a problem involving directly the interests of the different countries of East Asia. It is to be earnestly hoped, therefore, that the peoples of this area, by thoroughly understanding the consequences which are in store, will offer their full and positive collaboration in this respect.

GOLDEN CLIME FOUND BY THAI'S ANCESTORS

Hundreds of Yunnan People Succeed to Set Up Paradise

By PHRA SARASAS
Former Minister of Economics
Thailand

Through the tangled skein of their history the Thai have now made it forever clear that they belong to the Mongol race. They came from Yunnan in search of fortune in the Golden Clime. Group after group of them broke in upon the Khmer's solitude, and ensconced themselves snugly in the peninsula. There they found their paradise, and there they found their wives. The Khmer women, perched on a glorious pedestal, kept on plying the Thai with honey, and their children with milk. From this tender union was born the lower Thai, in other words, the Thai of Thailand.

On primitive wings, tidings traveled across the wilds, and tardily arrived at Yunnan. The country became astir, as it had been stirred before by startling news successively received. From mouth to mouth delightful rumors spread. Their comrades had found fortunes. Thereupon hundreds risked their lives fighting the wilderness, heading for the distant clime which they had heard vaguely about. Pressed on by the prospect of fortune, all obstacles were overcome and they set out for the new paradise, the Golden Clime. Nothing was more certain than that. According to the enchanting reports, there lay the land of wonders, of singing rivers, of balmy breezes, of luxuriant plains, of bright orange stars, of marvellous red moon, of brilliant blue sky, of golden sunlight, of clouds of fire, and of shining beauty. It beckoned them. There lay the land of their dreams smiling with an abundance of material and cultural wealth. It waited to welcome them.

Wilderness Conquered

Adventurous by nature the Yunnan Thai organized a great crusade of tens of thousands of souls, accompanied by wives and children, by dogs and chickens, by goats and cows, and whatever they could bring along. Looking forward to the favor of gods in a divine country of milk and honey, they set out to conquer the intervening wilderness.

It was not a caravan of carts and covered waggons because the foreboding forests, the jealous jungles, the forbidding mountains, the gaping ravines and the cruel currents made such means of travel impossible. They could only rely upon their mighty legs, marching in single file, with knives and axes. Trees fell, branches bent and trembled; depth and height and all kinds of hindrances had to bow before them.

Though many of them became victims of venomous fangs and ferocious claws, and still more of fevers of the virulent forest, yet it could not be helped. On and on they cut out their track with axes and swords, and on and on they trudged, lying down with the night, and rising with the sun.

Their provisions became more and more precious, and then there were no more, and the animals, even, were all eaten up. It could not be helped. However, there were plenty of fruits and berries, roots and bulbs to appease their hunger.

After Hardship

After months of extreme hardship, their strenuous trip ended at the smiling northern part of the Khmer empire. Blessed with a breath of heaven, they beheld the Golden Clime. There they settled down, and the town of Chiangsen arose.

There was nothing pompous about them. They were practical and hard-working, but soon they attracted the eagle eye of the Khmer king who prided himself on his power before which the Khmer people cowered in fright. The Thai was challenged to a fight and fight they did, and with success; so they made themselves independent. After that more and more Thai immigrants descended upon this part, particularly on the north of Thailand, which still retains the name of Lao country, from the word Ai-Lao which was the race name of the Thai at that time. The Lao people are, therefore, the early immigrants of the Thai from Yunnan. These squatters, at first wanted to come to some agreement with the Khmer king, but the latter obstinately agreed to differ; and his endeavors to dislodge the Thai ended in dislodging himself. Consequently the Thai, few and feeble at first, gradually acquired solidity and strength and increasingly encroached upon the Khmer territory, until the Kingdom of Sukhothai was founded.

Victory and Defeat

From that time on, continual wars with the Khmer were waged, which resulted in greatly extending the Thai territory at the expense of the Khmer, until the Kingdom of Ayudhya sprang up. That was the infant Thailand.

It was unfortunate for the Thai of Ayudhya, always to have to fight on two fronts, with the two neighbors on the east and on the west, with alternate victory and defeat. Twice their capital fell into the hands of the Burmese, but on both occasions they were able to recover their kingdom and vanquish their enemies. After the second Burmese conquest, the capital floated down to Dhonburi and then over to Bangkok. At that time Thailand covered the whole of the Golden Clime, part of Burma as far as Martaban, and with the exception of Cochin-China, Annam and Tonkin.

Though Thailand has grown smaller, it is by no means too small for its population. The people are still lost in the length and breadth of the vast territory, numbering only 15,000,000 souls, that is to say 30 people per square kilometer or 150 to a square mile.

Parental Stem

The parental stem left in Yunnan still numbers about 26,000,000 people, and the territories annexed by France and Britain contain some 5,000,000 of the Thai people, hence all in all the Thai can boast 46,000,000 souls.

With such a rich country as the present Thailand, and equally rich climate, the Thai should have multiplied to twice that 15,000,000, but various factors had tended to retard the progress of procreation. First, the frequent wars between themselves and their neighbors arrested the process of productivity. The second factor was religious in nature. When the Thai espoused Buddhism, they took to it heatily and thoroughly. Almost every young Thai of more than 20 years of age entered the Holy Orders for a duration ranging from three months to life-time, until the country was flooded with ochre robes and leather sandals.

COFFEE AS BEVERAGE HAS INTERESTING TALE

Drinking Unknown to Civilized Nations of Ancient World

The use of coffee as a beverage, which has become so widespread, has an interesting history. As an economic product the early history of coffee is involved in obscurity, the absence of historical fact being compensated for by an unusual profusion of conjectural statements and by purely mythical stories. Coffee was certainly unknown to the civilized nations of the ancient world.

According to one Arabic account cited by De Sacy in his "Chrestomathie Arabe" the use of coffee was introduced into Aden from the African coast by Sheikh Shihab addin Dhabhani before the year 875 of the Hegira, or A. D. 1470. Another names a different sheikh, Jamal-ad-din ibn Abdallah, as the introducer of coffee into Aden, but agrees as to the date. According to the latter account the use of coffee as a beverage was prevalent among the Abyssinians from the most remote period and there seems little doubt that it was from Abyssinia, through the Arabs, that it spread to Turkey and the outside world.

Devotional Antisoporific

Coffee's peculiar property of dissipating drowsiness and preventing sleep was taken advantage of in connection with the prolonged religious services of the Muhammadans, but its use as a devotional antisoporific stirred up opposition among the strictly orthodox and conservative elements. By the extremists coffee was declared to be an intoxicating beverage and as such prohibited by the Koran. It may be pointed out in passing that the Arabic word gahwa, denoting coffee, has the meaning of wine in ancient Arabic literature.

Notwithstanding the threats of divine wrath, the coffee-drinking habit spread rapidly among the Arabian Muhammadans, and the growth of coffee became as inseparably associated with Arabia as tea is with China. For two centuries the entire supply of the world, limited as this was, came from the province of Yemen in South Arabia, where the celebrated Mocha coffee is still produced.

From Arabia, the knowledge of, and taste for, coffee spread slowly and it was not until the middle of the 16th century that coffee-houses were established in Istanbul. Here also the new habit excited considerable commotion among the religious. The popularity of the coffee houses had a depressing effect on the attendance at the mosques and, as a consequence, fierce hostility was excited amongst the religious orders against the new beverage. They laid their grievances before the Sultan who was persuaded to levy a heavy tax upon the coffee houses in the Turkish dominions. Notwithstanding this, they flourished and extended. Greece was then a part of the Turkish Empire and it was the Greeks who carried the knowledge and use of coffee westwards.

First Coffee Dealer

But some 100 years had elapsed before coffee reached Great Britain. A coffee house was opened in London in 1652 by a Greek, named Pasqua Rossi. Rossi came from Smyrna with D. Edwards, a Turkey merchant, and he prepared coffee daily for Edwards and his visitors. So popular did the new drink become with Edwards' friends that their visits occasioned him much inconvenience. To obviate this he directed Rossi to establish a public coffee house, which the latter accordingly did. His original establishment was in St. Michael's Alley, Cornhill, and over the door Rossi erected a sign with his portrait, subsequently announcing himself to be "the first who made and publicly sold coffee drink in England."

The introduction of coffee into England encountered much the same hostility that it met in other countries. In 1675, King Charles the Second attempted to suppress coffee houses by a Royal proclamation, in which it was stated that they were the resort of disaffected persons "who devised and spread abroad divers false, malicious and scandalous reports, to the defamation of His Majesty's Government, and to the disturbance of the peace and quiet of the nation." On an opinion being taken as to the legality of this step, high legal authorities discovered "that the retailing of coffee might be an innocent trade, but as it was used to

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REICH ENCOURAGES 'IRON SAVINGS' TO STABILIZE WARTIME ECONOMY

Scheme Not Compulsory but Advantageous for People, Particularly Wage-Earners, Salaried Employes

Frankfurter Zeitung

In wartime man-power and goods should be at the disposal of those responsible for the conduct of the war to the largest possible extent.

The soldier at the front expects the home front to think of him and not of itself, to remember his need of the implements of war with which he can deal smashing blows to the enemy and utterly rout him. Thus self-denial at home is the requisite of the intensified striking power of the fighting forces at the front.

This self-denial consists in each individual's reducing his expenditures as far as possible and in saving the greater part of his income for post-war days. The time will surely come when the barriers around markets will fall and each one of us will be able to procure those goods we had perforce to do without during the war.

Thus it is obviously the duty of each individual citizen to carry to the savings-bank every single penny of his income which he does not absolutely require for current needs. Each depositor, in putting his savings into the bank, will have a balance to his credit which he can draw upon as required.

Increase in Savings

In Germany during the first two years of the war, the increase in small-savings alone totaled RM 13,400,000,000. By increase in deposits in this sense we mean the excess of deposits over payments. The total holdings of the saving-banks are today approximately RM 35,000,000,000.

The vast increase in deposits testifies to a conscientious restriction of expenditures on the part of the home front. In addition it evidences the thriftiness of the German people who think of the future after the war. They think of many a purchase they will make in post-war days. Perhaps of furniture for a flat, a daughter's trousseau, the fittings of a workshop for a son on his return from the war, or they hope to repair and build additions to their houses, to extend a trade or to put money into a farm etc. Others again there are who save for educational purposes to complete some special course of training or to travel. Some too save for emergencies and times of need.

Soldiers' wives figure largely among depositors, for most of these women are engaged in work of some kind or another in wartime. In addition to their separation allowances as soldiers' wives they earn regular wages and salaries and can put a part of their income into the savings-bank.

Exemption From Taxation

A decree of the ministerial council for national defense was recently published in the Reich Gazette, according to which saving under certain conditions will receive a special reward. This reward consists in the granting of very considerable privileges over and above the usual rates of interest. Certain parts of incomes paid into savings-banks are entirely exempt from taxation as is also the interest accruing annually from these deposits.

This exemption from taxation cannot be granted to every member of the state to an unlimited extent for the loss to state revenues would be too great. This exemption can only be applied to the wage-earner and salaried employe and even then to a limited extent.

Moreover, the amount of his income allocated by the wage-earner or salaried employe to the "iron savings" scheme is also exempt from contributions to social insurance atop the wages tax and contributions to social insurance are not levied on gross earnings, but only on what remains after deducting the iron savings.

A pre-condition of this reward is that wage-earners and salaried employes agree to leave their savings in the bank for the duration of the war. It is for this reason that these savings are called "iron" deposits.

Iron Savings

Each wage-earner and salaried employe can open an iron savings-bank account. The owner of a depositors book can at the end of the war immediately give a year's notice and at the end of this period withdraw his iron savings from the bank. Interest on iron savings is at the rate customary in the case of money to be called at a year's notice. Interest is anually added to the iron savings account. This interest is exempt from taxation. Iron deposits plus interest are further exempt the tax on property. In case of need iron savings can be withdrawn before the end of the war. Depositors are advised to leave the interest in the bank or to draw it as soon as it has been written off.

Every facility is given to wage-earners and salaried employes who may wish to open an iron savings-bank account. They can ask employers or managers to deduct a certain sum from their earnings and pay it for them into the bank. This method facilitates the reckoning of deductions for taxes and social contributions for the employer or manager.

The extra work devolving upon the manager in thus complying with the wishes of employes is made as simple as possible, as indeed is the whole system of deducting tax from wages. What is hereby aimed at is the summing up of all amounts to be deducted from wages and salaries.

Scheme Not Compulsory

The advantages afforded by the iron savings scheme with respect to taxation and contributions to social insurance are considerable in the case of most wage-earners and salaried employes. For this reason many a wage earner and salaried employe will wish to allocate a certain portion of his income to the iron savings account. However, as already mentioned, the greater the number of iron deposits the less will be the revenues accruing from taxation and contributions to social insurance and for this reason the possibility of depositing money in the iron savings-account must perforce be limited. Thus each worker, employe and civil servant may only pay into his iron savings-bank account a sum not exceeding RM 1.00 daily, RM 6.00 weekly or RM 26.00 monthly.

When the worker or employe receives his wages or salary less the sum allocated to iron savings the whole amount thus allocated is not deducted from his wages. For what he pays into the iron savings-bank is exempt from the wages tax and contributions to social insurance. For instance, if an unmarried man who earns RM 300.00 a month decides to allocate RM 26.00 a month to the iron savings scheme, the amount he receives in cash is only RM 15.00 less than before, in other words, by doing without RM 15.00 a month, he increases his iron saivings by RM 26.00.

It should be expressly noted that the iron savings scheme is not a compulsory savings scheme which would place the wage-earner and employe under the obligation to allocate a current sum to the iron savings-bank account. On the contrary each individual is perfectly free to do as he pleases. And if he decides to open an iron savings-bank account, he is at liberty to fix the sum he wishes to save within the aforecited limits.

Contributions to Social Insurance

There will be many a wage-earner and salaried employe whose income is just sufficient to cover the bare necessities of life for himself and his family. Some there are who have other calls upon their purses that prevent them from saving. Others again would like to save but wish to have their savings at their disposal for the duration of the war. In the latter case a wage-earner or salaried employe will himself pay into a savings-bank the sum he wishes to save. These deposits, of course, do not reap the same benefits accruing from the iron savings scheme, namely exemption from taxation and contributions to social insurance. Moreover, the rate of interest is lower than that on deposits recallable only at a year's notice. There are also wage-earners and employes who will want to open an iron savings bank account in addition to their ordinary banking account.

Those desirous of opening an iron savings-bank account can only do so within the prescribed limits. In order to simplify the procedure the wage-earner and salaried employe can ask his manager to put him down for a sum amounting only to Pf 50 or RM 1 daily, RM 3 or RM 6 weekly, RM 13 or RM 26 monthly. Again for the same reason it is not possible or expedient to change the allocated amount each time a worker receives his wages or salary. An application to set aside a certain sum for the iron savings-bank must therefore hold good for at least three months. The wage-earner or salaried man is at liberty to renew his application or not for the ensuing three months or he can ask for a larger or smaller amount to be deducted from his wages or salary for allocation to the iron savings scheme.

Greater Benefit

Only those workers and employes who are called upon to work overtime on Sundays, holidays, or night shifts, or who are engaged to do piecework are allowed to benefit to a greater extent from this exemption from taxes and contributions to social insurance. They are allowed to pay in 50 per cent more than the above-mentioned maximum, which means that their iron savings may be increased to RM 39 a month.

Moreover, every wage-earner or salaried employe can, if he likes, allocate to his iron savings account any gratuity over and above his wages which he may receive at Christmas or New Year so long as it does not exceed RM 500.00. This amount is likewise exempt from taxation and contributions to social insurance. Those who do not wish this sum to be allocated to their iron savings receive it in cash less the wages tax and the contribution to social insurance. The benefits accruing to wage-earners and salaried employes from the iron savings scheme are to be considered in terms of compensation for the fact that the circumstances of wage-earners and employes do not generally allow them to claim the extent accorded to other tax payers with respect to taxation.

In the democratic epoch it was maintained that the security of a currency depends upon its being backed by gold. Everybody in Germany today knows that Germany left the gold standard many years ago and its currency is still stable—the historic fiction that currency requires a full gold cover has thus been shattered for all time.

Security of Currency

The security of a country's currency is not alone determined by the quantity of commodities at the disposal of civilians. War material goods and property acquired in war can likewise be considered in terms of a basis for a stable currency. Through the intervention of German arms territories are being acquired which will one day prove of inestimable value to Germany's national economy. That the present employment of war materials and property acquired in the war will be repaid a thousandfold is the standpoint of the merchandise market. The excess of purchasing power conditioned by the war is more than a thousand times covered by merchandise which after the war will from year to year animate Germany's national economy to an ever-increasing extent.

Enemy propaganda would have it that plans are afoot in Germany to confiscate a hundred per cent of all savings for the purpose of financing the war. No one holding a responsible position in Germany ever conceived for a single moment the notion of confiscating private savings. What, after all, would be the use of such a measure? Certainly not for financing the war. The appeal to the nation to save is not based on financial grounds but purely and simply on a wise direction of excessive purchasing power.

System of Taxation

Enemy propaganda alleges moreover that plans are under way to introduce a levy of capital in Germany. This would, it is asserted, include savings also. The reply to such allegations was an emphatic and perfectly unequivocal statement in the German press that no responsible government department in the Reich had ever even entertained the idea of a capital levy or of raising the tax on property. The German system of taxation relies not on capital but on income and returns.

The possession of a banking account will never be a disadvantage, but, on the contrary, it can only be a boon and a blessing to its owner. There is not a man or woman in wartime who is not proud of doing his or her bit efficiently and of being able to lay by as large a proportion of money earned against the time when the barriers around merchandise markets will fall.

PORCELAIN ART SHOWS CIVILIZATION OF CHINA

Symmetrical and Graceful Forms Appeal to Modern Sentiment

Egypt and China may be the countries in the world that can boast of the most ancient beginnings of civilization and their highly advanced stages of culture in those earliest times. The oldest specimens of the ceramic products in the East may be the non-glazed earthenware fabrics with patterns painted on the black or red-brown ground, unearthed in the Fengtien Province of Manchoukuo and in the Honan and Kansu provinces in China, dating presumably from 3,000-2,000 B.C. Their forms are symmetrical and graceful and the patterns are simple and original, strangely appealing to our modern sentiment. Some of them are incidentally resembling the Mycenaen earthenware of Greece.

The first glazed pottery was probably manufactured in the Han period (circa, 200 B.C.-200 A.D.). To this day are preserved various specimens of it covered with a glaze of superior quality with a green color obtained from copper. Most of them were apparently modelled on the forms of bronze vessels.

The glazes or the coloring paints of the enamel of this period seem to have been obtained mostly from copper, and a few other varieties of paints, also of pale green or pale yellowish brown, were taken from the ashes of animals and plants. It was in the T'ang period (circa, 600-900) that the yellowish brown and blue obtained from iron and cobalt began to be employed.

Greatly Ornamental

The effect of these new glazes generally classed under the title "T'ang Three Colors," on the surface of ceramic productions was greatly ornamental. The influence of these polychrome wares made its way into Chosen and Japan.

True or hard porcelain was made in the Sung period (circa, 900-1290) at the latest. Pale blue porcelain and celadon pieces of fine quality were manufactured in the south, while northern provinces produced Ting yao and other stoneware. European porcelain is traceable only to the manufactures by Bottger at Meissen, near Dresden, in the early 18th century. Thus the manufacture of porcelain began 400 to 800 years earlier in the Orient than in any Occidental country.

That the Westerners were both surprised and charmed by the Oriental porcelain may be proved by the fact that the blue-and-white porcelain of China and the Famille Rose of Imari, Japan imitated in soft porcelain fired at much lower temperatures by Dutch potters, such as Adreaen Pynacker, Augestijin Reygensbergh, Louys Fictoor, etc., gained much popularity in the 17th century Netherlands.

The technique of painting polychrome patterns on ceramic ware was perfected during the period of Southern Sung (1127-1295) and making remarkable strides in the Ming period, attained to its highest stage of development under the Ts'ing rule.

It was introduced into Japan in the mid-17th century, resulting in the manufacture of similar polychromes by potters in Arita, in Kyushu and Kutani, in Kaga Province, as well as in the then capital, Kyoto. In Europe, the employment of color enamels was initiated by Herold, a Viennese, in about 1719. Thus the Orient took the lead of the rest of the world in the manufacture of ceramic products especially in variety and technique.

Egyptian Pottery

Speaking of oldness, we must not overlook the Egyptian pottery. Egypt, however, did not excel the Orient in the development of styles and technical skills or in the perfection attained by individual products of different ages. Examining the varieties shown in the Chinese ceramics, we find that the productions of the earliest periods were confined chiefly to things to be used for religious ceremonies.

Implements of daily use too, however, began to be manufactured gradually, till at last everything that had been manufactured in metal, wood and stone before came to be made of clay by potters. In the process of manufacture were employed potter's wheels, moulds and human hands, either separately or in combination.

The chief materials for the coloring paints were iron, copper and cobalt, although gilding and even jewelling are said to have been employed sometimes. The ornamental figures painted on the surface included pictorial paintings, designs borrowed from textile fabrics and dyed goods, conventionalized things of nature and many others. Among the decorative sculptures applied to earthenware were carving, mezzorilievo and open-work. Some patterns consisted of punched-out figures pasted on to the surface. There is an endless variety in the kinds of technical devices employed by these ancient potters all of which testify to their craftsmanship of exquisite delicacy.

Synopsis of CONTEMPORARY JAPANESE LITERATURE

KO-O-TSURETE
(With Children on My Hands)
1918

By ZENZO KASAI

Cleaning up the house, cooking side dishes, and serving out rations of rice-bran mash, he saw to it that the children got through with their evening meal and at length placed his own supper tray near the porch, where the rays of the setting sun had already receded, and sipped his sake in a lonely mood.

Here came a shyster to demand that he vacate this house. The amount he had deposited with the landlord as guarantee of good faith had already been applied to his arrears in rent, and he was still four months behind in his payment, so that at last he was faced with eviction. His wife had gone to the home province to raise money but had not yet returned. There was absolutely no income from his writings. He was living from day to day with his two children, in a miserable state; but pressed harder and harder by this shyster, he had no choice but to move to some other house.

All friends of his whom he could claim as friends had already been imposed upon to the limit for loans, and all of them were avoiding him as a matter of precaution. Only his friend called K. had been kind enough to favor him now and then with further loans, but censured by his own friends to the effect that to offer money to such a man was not an act of kindness, but contrary to moral principles, K. too finally kept aloof from him.

Money Not Arrived

At last the moving day came, but money from his wife had not yet arrived. Aimlessly he made the rounds of various places in the midsummer heat, but nothing materialized. On the way he met an old friend of his who was now a police inspector, but this man did not seem quite the sort of whom he could ask a favor.

However, he somehow found a suitable house near the slum district, so he left a very small deposit and returned to his home. But there was still no remittance from his wife.

It was close to eight o'clock in the evening that, having sold whatever was of value among his kitchen utensils, he left this house for good with his two children. He took with him a basket made of akebia in which were his unfinished manuscripts and pen and ink, while his eldest boy, a second-grader in an elementary school, had a school knapsack containing books and accessories strapped to his shoulders and wore a hakama. Taking his seven-year old daughter by the hands, he walked toward the streets that were gay and crowded at night.

Empty of stomach, he entered a bar, and got the children a ration of rice-cakes, himself taking sake. He felt that other than sake there was nothing that could now enliven him. "Father, let's go." "We've had enough." Pressed repeatedly by the children in this fashion, he at length rose from his seat, in a somewhat intoxicated state. They left the bar, and got on a street-car.

They went to the lodging house where K. was living. K. was not at home, having gone on a trip. Going up to the desk, he asked the proprietor to let him and his children stay here for two or three days, but was flatly refused. What was worse, the time was already past ten. Then at least for the night, he begged, in vain, as his little daughter beside him covered her face with her hands and began to weep.

No Home for Shelter

So then the three got on a street-car, close to 11 o'clock, to return willy-nilly to the street on which the house they had lived in was situated. To go to some cheap lodging house in that neighborhood was the only alternative, for there was no home of his friends anywhere to which he and his children could turn for shelter. The moment the children slumped into their seats, they leaned upon each other's shoulder and began, in sheer exhaustion, to snore.

". . . to make even my children bear the cross of my tribulations?" Yes, that was undoubtedly a terrible thing indeed. But at the present moment, like his children, his mind, no less than his body, merely craved rest. . . .

* * *

In his first literary effort, Kanashiki Chichi (Pathetic Father), the author says of himself: "He was the sort of cold poet who, shutting himself persistently from the city, from life, from friends, from every form of diversion, from every possible kind of music, was buried in a quiet meditation in his own little world." This sense of solitude he maintained till the very end. His work is a defeatist elegy, the product of a negative temperament of the nihilistic and peculiarly Oriental type.

Ko-o-Tsurete is the story that launched him successfully on his career as a writer. At the same time it is a good guide to an understanding of his style of writing and manner of living. A Shinkyo-shosetsu, it is a portrayal of the leading character who, pressed by poverty, his rental deposit forfeited on arrears, and a whole month passing after a further four-month arrearage, is evicted by a shyster sent round by his landlord and, what is worse, has no place to go and wanders about with his children in a maze of helpless uncertainty and weariness.

In Faultless Technique

Moreover, it is a notable piece of work that projects from this midst a delineation, in faultless technique, of the leading character's disordered state of mind as he loses his inspiration, the most important thing to a writer, due to his tribulations. The fact that, notwithstanding the extent of his destitution and suffering as it is here shown, he cannot give up his daily ration of sake, attests that the weakness of his character has led him to seek escape in drink; yet drink is not his ultimate solace, but something which would bring on another, newer distress. The power of this work lies in the shrewdness of its scrutiny into

(Continued on Page 3)